MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 JANUARY 1980

American Hostages

Following a meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, reported by PARS, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said that the ayatollah has "allowed us to assume the undertaking" proposed by the Algerian Government "which guaranteed to solve the crisis between Iran and the United States" over the release of the hostages. AFP reported that Algerian Ambassador to Iran Abdelkarim Ghraieb denied any change in Algeria's role as an intermediary in the negotiations.

Iran Foreign Affairs

After his meeting with Khomeyni, Prime Minister Raja'i, citing the ayatollah, announced that Iran will not attend the Islamic Conference meeting in Riyadh if Iraqi President Saddam Husayn takes part in it, PARS reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio continues to report on the Iranian attack on the Gilan-e Gharb front and a new offensive around Ahvaz, including the repulsion of an Iraqi counterattack in the area. Iranian Air Force planes struck at Iraqi concentrations near Hamidiyeh and Jofeyr, the radio said, while Iranian and Iraqi artillery dueled around Abadan, Dezful, Farsiat and Darkhovin. Noting Iranian attacks on Iraqi positions at Susangerd, Ahvaz, Mehran and Gilan-e Gharb, an Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, said that Iraqi forces have halted and routed the attackers, killing 381 and destroying 43 tanks.

Iraq

Saddam Husayn Speech--President Saddam Husayn coupled strong praise for the Iraqi Army with a defense of his Gulf war military strategy in a speech marking the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Iraqi Army, carried live by Baghdad radio and television. Saddam Husayn also said that Iraq "is completely ready" to return the Iranian territory it has occupied, provided Iran returns the "territory and rights" it seized to their "legitimate Arab owners." Calling the Iraqi Army a "national institution" and praising its "spirit of victory," the president said that 4 months of "brave fighting" have shown that Iraq is unwilling to tolerate "aggression, humiliation and blackmail" and that the army's victories, which "cannot be denied," have confirmed the validity of his military strategy.

Turning to other topics, the Iraqi leader claimed widespread Arab support for Iraq's position in the Gulf war and singled out Jordan for its "brave and honorable stand." Saddam Husayn went on to cite the current "Iranian rulers" as "fully responsible" for the conflict but reiterated Iraq's willingness "to solve the problems between us and Iran" through various international organizations as long as such negotiations lead to a peaceful settlement that recognizes Arab rights and are "free of any form of foreign intervention."

Defense Minister Assessment--Defense Minister Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, in remarks to the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH cited by INA, said that Iraq has achieved a "distinct superiority" in the Gulf war and is improving its military "balance" among its armor, artillery and infantry forces. While claiming that the Iranian Army has done its duty in defending the country, the defense minister called on Iran's military leaders to confront the "reactionary policies of the Tehran rulers" and to understand the "clear and simple" Iraqi conditions for a peaceful settlement.

Libya-Chad

A joint communique on Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's visit to Libya, carried textually by Tripoli radio, states that Libya and Chad have agreed to work toward the "complete unity" of the two countries. It also states that, in accordance with the joint defense treaty of June 1980, Libya "will send a number of military men to assist in keeping security and maintaining peace" in Chad.

Libya

A closed session of the General People's Congress, reported by Tripoli radio's Voice of the Arab Homeland, announced wide-ranging ministerial appointments. New secretaries for internal affairs and external liaison were announced. Following a proposal by the congress secretary for the establishment of a secretariat for atomic energy for peaceful purposes, the congress decided to set up an advanced center for atomic research and appointed engineer 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud as secretary for atomic energy.

Egypt

President Anwar as-Sadat has carried out a limited Cabinet reshuffle, MENA reported, appointing new minsiters of state for finance, economy and presidential affairs. The Jerusalem POST earlier alleged that As-Sadat was considering a major reshuffle to thwart a challenge for power by Vice President Husni Mubarak. Cairo radio reported that the government banned the Jerusalem POST correspondnet responsible for the article from reentering Egypt. Minister of State for Culture and Information Mansur Hasan summoned Israeli Ambassador Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, Jerusalem radio reported, expressing Egypt's disappointment with the Israeli newspaper article. The radio said that in the meeting the two decided to find an appropriate way to handle the issue and lift the ban on the Jerusalem POST reporter.

Israel

Jerusalem radio reported that following a request by Prime Minister Menahem Begin for further meetings to achieve a compromise in the dispute over teachers' salaries, Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz suspended his letter of resignation until a final decision is reached. However, at the end of his meeting with Begin and Education Minister Zvulun Hammer, Hurvitz said although he wants the Begin government to continue, its existence will no longer be justified if no effort is made to settle his disagreement with Hammer.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BRATISLAVA PRAVDA INTERVIEWS AGRICULTURE MINISTER

AU051405 [Editorial report] Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 31 December on page 6 carries a 1,700-word undated interview given in Kabul by Fazel Rahim Momand, Afghan minister of agriculture and land reform, to Ivan Micko headlined "What Decree No 8 Has Yielded."

Discussing the results of the Afghan Revolution Council's Decree No 8 on land reform, Momand says that since 1 January 1979 "We have distributed more than 3.6 million jeribs of soil (there are five jeribs to a hectare) to 296,000 landless persons. Apart from that we have given 230,000 jeribs to state farms and we have allocated an additional 125,000 jeribs to city administrations and other state organizations."

According to Momand the land reform had, however, been "obstructed" by "hafizullah Amin and his gang, masterminded by the CIA," who "were returning land that had already been distributed and imprisoning some farmers for their revolutionary thinking. On the other hand they were protecting feudal lords and causing considerable problems to bodies that were carrying out the reform. Many of those who had taken an active part in progressive changes had been murdered and many are still missing. Under the conditions of such tyranny it proved impossible last year to till a third of the arable land." In addition, "considerable quantities of cattle had been killed by counterrevolutionaries and Amin's gangs so that problems emerged caused by a shortage of draft animals for agricultural work."

It was only the leadership of Babrak Karmal that the agrarian reform has been able to be carried on, Momand continues. He says: "We have been trying to supply seeds and fertilizer, especially to those farmers who were given soil but had no means to cultivate it. That is one of the most serious problems, apart from that we have begun to implement programs to cultivate the soil of those who had departed Afghanistan leaving the land lie fallow. It has turned out that this care for the farmers and for soil has paid off because grain production, especially of wheat and corn, has increased." As a result it has been possible to lower prices, the Afghan minister says.

Decree No 8 on land reform has also had a "positive impact" on setting up agricultural cooperatives, according to Momand. By now "cooperatives of peasants and farmers jointly cultivate about 3 percent of the soil. There are 200,000 such farmers who are working on 1 million jeribs of soil (200,000 hectares)," he says.

Apart from cooperatives great attention is devoted to state farms, which are a "completely new phenomenon in Afghanistan," the minister says. For the time being there are two "thriving state farms" in Afghanistan--Hadda and Khaziabad, both in Nangarhar Province, set up in cooperation with the Soviet Union, according to Momand. He goes on to say: "We are planning to establish additional state farms, which will have at their disposal more than 55,000 jeribs of soil. We are convinced that in the near future we will have enough equipment, technical personnel and necessary services to succeed in expanding the network of state farms and improving their economy. At present state farms till 1 percent of agricultural land."

Asked about the size of agricultural land in Afghanistan Momand says that "so far we do not have reliable statistical data in Afghanistan on the size of the agricultural land nor on agriculture in general. The official statistics that are being issued by the government, the Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Agriculture state, however, that the area of agricultural land is 7.8 million hectares, 3.8 million of which we till annually. That means that every year we are making use of only one-half of the area for agriculture, with the other half lying fallow. That is caused by a shortage of water. So far we have not succeeded in making use of all water resources that we have. There is a whole number of new irrigation projects, it is our goal to make an additional 6 million hectares fertile."

Responding in his last reply to a question on this year's results of Afghanistan's agriculture, Momand says that "during the time of spring agricultural work we implemented a program of extraordinarily urgent measures because one-third of the land that was to be tilled was lying fallow. If we failed to sow it we would have been deprived of about 1 million tons of grain, especially wheat, and that could have caused great social and economic problems. Because of the party's and government's efforts we succeeded in tilling most of the land so that 5 percent more grain was harvested than last year. The situation in the production of other foodstuffs is also very promising." As regards industrial crops the "outlook is worse," however, according to the minister because "in some areas farmers have not been able, due to the counterrevolutionary gangs' ravaging, to care adequately for cotton and sugar beets." The production of vegetables and fruit was, on the other hand "excellent," according to Momand, and the production of Persian lamb fells has also increased: from 1.2 million last year to this year's 1.75 million. That, as well as the course of the fall agricultural work, is seen by Momand as proof that "the normalization of life irresistibly continues and the situation is developing in a positive direction."

TRANSPORTATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM USSR

LD312110 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Sherjan Mazduryar, minister of transportation, returned to Kabul today from the USSR. At Kabul International Airport, personnel of the Ministry of Transportation and members of the USSR Embassy in Kabul were present to welcome him.

BRITISH LABOR PARTY MP'S GREETED AT KABUL AIRPORT

LD061718 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] At the invitation of the Peace, Friendship and Solidarity Organization of the DRA, a three-member delegation of the British Parliament, belonging to the Labor Party of that country, arrived in Kabul this morning.

At Kabul International Airport, Rahim Ref'at [Kabul NEW TIMES editor] and [names indistinct], members of the Peace, Friendship and Solidarity Organization of the DRA, welcomed the delegation.

The delegation members include Allan Roberts, MP for Liverpool, Ronald Brown, MP for Edinburgh, and Robert Litherland, MP for Manchester, who are all members of the British House of Commons. The secretary of the Afghan-British (?Solidarity) Society, [name indistinct], is also in this delegation. During its stay the delegation will meet with some Afghan Government and organizational officials.

HEWAD ATTACKS ZIAUL HAQ'S 'MILITARIST' REGIME

LD051908 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 0235 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Unattributed article in HEWAD entitled "Pakistani Military Government Making That Country a Nest of Reaction and Base of Imperialism"]

[Excerpts] It has been more than 3 years since general Ziaul Haq and his military group usurped the Pakistani Government; he seized the democratic rights of the people of Pakistan stopped elections and curbed the press and political parties. He opened the gate for the enemies of the Afghan revolution and toiling and Muslim people. He built for them camps and gave them arms to kill Muslim youths, elders, women and children of Afghanistan and to loot houses and set fire to bridges, roads, mosques schools and libraries and to plunder them.

The pure Muslim people of Pakistan are continuously struggling to regain their democratic, human, Islamic, all-round social and individual rights, but the Pakistani militarist agents try to silence by force the religious, social and class movements. The Pakistani Government [words indistinct] uses force, practises cruelty, silences the voice of the people and paves the way for chauvinism and imperialism. It practises the murder of Muslims by Muslims.

AFP: 200 ARMY CONSCRIPTS GO ON STRIKE IN PAKTIA

OW011943 Hong Kong AFP in English 1922 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] Islamabad, 1 Jan (AFP)--About 200 Afghan Army conscripts demanding discharge after their compulsory two-year service have gone on strike in Paktia Province, rebel sources said today.

Under Afghan Army rules males reaching 22 years of age must serve two years in the army, after which the government issues certificates enabling them to get civilian jobs. However, President Babrak Karmal's regime has cut the age limit and requires all Afghan youths over 16 to serve for two years.

According to the rebel group Hezb-e Slami Afghanistan, which is led by Maulavi Yunus Khalis, an entire unit of 200 young soldiers refused to carry out military duties after a demonstration in front of army headquarters in Urgoon, Paktia Province. Six of them, who later joined the rebel group, said that the "rebel conscripts had taken refuge" in Urgoon's principal mosque because of government delays in releasing those who had served their terms. "None of them is willing to continue military duties," they said. The Karmal government is not releasing them because the Afghan Army has been depleted through desertions, the rebels added.

BBC: SENIOR KABUL POLICE OFFICERS ARRESTED

TA051527 London BBC World Service in English at 1500 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] The news that a large number of police officers have been arrested in Afghanistan has come in reports reaching India, as our correspondent there, Mark Tully, explains in the first dispatch of this radio newsreel. The arrests are said to have followed the recent large scale demonstrations by the Afghanistan police.

[Begin recording] According to the reports, many senior police officers, including the chief of Kabul's police Major (Nabizadeh), were arrested after rioting police threw stones at government offices, road-signs and passing cars last week. Many civilians were also reported to have been arrested. The riot broke out when police were told that the government was not going to stand by its committment to release anyone who served 6 months more than the 2 years they were originally recruited for.

After the riot the government has apparently again decided to release all police and army personnel who served more than 6 months beyond their 2 year period, however, this will put a strain on the police and the army. The army in particular has been badly depleted by desertions and attempts to enforce conscription often by force have not been very successful. Apparently there have been several gun battles at night recently in Kabul, one in the area of the capital where the senior Soviet military officers live. [end recording]

SOVIET FORCES REPORTEDLY FAIL TO OPEN SALANG PASS

LD061227 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 6 Jan 81 p 5

[Bruce Loudon dispatch: "Russians Fail To Open Road"]

[Excerpt] New Delhi--The Salang Pass linking Kabul with Russia was still closed more than a week after anti-Communist Mojahedin guerrillas first interrupted convoys travelling along it, reliable reports from the Afghan capital said in New Delhi last night.

Despite an intensive ground and air operation the Soviet forces had failed to flush out the resistance fighters. According to the reports heavy fighting was going on in the area.

The Salang Pass road, which snakes north from Kabul, was first reported closed just after Christmas. Its continued closure is a major factor in the Soviet war effort, for the road is now the main supply route for the Red Army. Reports about the fighting in the Salang area are inevitably sketchy since roadblocks have prevented all travellers from Kabul going north. At the same time tribesmen from the north, on normal business, have been prevented from travelling south to the capital.

Last night's reports from Kabul speak of an almost unprecedented flood of anti-Communist pamphlets being circulated in the city. These threaten a stepped-up campaign against the Soviet presence. According to the reports, the new year in the Afghan capital was hearalded with no fewer than 20 bomb blasts. It was claimed that in a series of urban guerrilla attacks to mark the event, Mojahedin succeeded in blowing up several Russian armoured personnel carriers.

ROME AVANTI INTERVIEWS REBEL PARTY LEADER

LD061619 Rome AVANTI in Italian 27 Dec 80 pp 1, 2

["F.G." undated interview, presumably conducted in Rome, with Afghan Social Democratic Party Secretary (Mohammad Amin Wakman): "Afghan Resistance Not Yielding to Moscow"]

[Excerpts] [Question] How do you assess Afghanistan's internal situation now?

[Answer] Although there are about 85,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan, by no means do they have complete control of the country; we estimate that about 80 percent of our national territory is outside of their control. The Soviets and the Karmal regime are barely able to garrison the major cities--and not all of them, or completely. In Kabul, despite the presence of 300 Soviet tanks, there are frequent night gunfights, skirmishes with Soviet and Afghan units and attacks on roadblocks. About two-thirds of the western city of Herat, is under the freedom fighters' control; as is Qandahar.

[Question] Can you give me some figures on casualties?

[Answer] Karmal himself has admitted that at least 1.5 million people have died. The Soviets, too, have suffered very heavy losses: According to our estimates, some 22,000 troops have been put out of action, either dead or wounded--a very high percentage, which not even the Americans reached during the Vietnam war. To these losses you must add those suffered by the Afghan Army: Out of 90,000 men, 15,000 have been put out of action, dead, wounded or deserted.

[Question] What about the resistance? What real chances are there for unification of all the movements?

[Answer] There is a large number of resistance groups, but only seven main ones: six Islamic, and our party. It is true that they are not united, each one is fighting on its own account without coordinating its guerrilla activities with the other groups, but now we believe that we are on the right road to a unification among the various groups. Contacts have been established between our party and three Islamic groups in an attempt to create a united front and we hope that the other groups can join us later too. (The attempt to unite the resistance forces is at present the subject of contacts in Cairo between the various Islamic groups and the Afghan Social Democratic party.) Unless we are united, it will be difficult to combat a superpower.

[Question] One of the charges most frequently made by the Soviets concerns the support which the resistance allegedly receives from certain foreign countries: Can you tell us how things really stand?

[Answer] The Afghan people are not so stupid as to provoke a superpower. Ours is a national liberation war against foreign intervention. We fought British imperialism and defeated it three times without any outside support. This time, too, the Afghan people want to liberate themselves on their own, without outside support. We do not want to provoke or involve other countries; this is our war. Of course, we are seeking material aid and weapons. We need antitank and antiaircraft weapons. We want to buy them, but nobody is selling them to us. The United States has made many promises but has not kept them; let us hope that things will change with Reagan.

[Question] Can you give us some information about the Afghan Social Democratic Party?

[Answer] The party was founded in 1966 when our country's first liberal constitution was approved. We were the first party to publish a political newspaper--(AFGAN MELLA)--which, however, immediately ran up against strict censorship and was banned after only a month (but was published clandestinely for 8 more years). In the 1969 elections our party gained 28 out of 216 seats in the lower house and our party chairman, Farhad, formerly mayor of Kabul, failed to be elected speaker of the house by only three votes. In 1973 we became clandestine again because the republic proclaimed by Daoud banned all political parties we transferred the party headquarters to Peshawar in Pakistan. When Taraki's communists carried out the coup d'etat in 1978 we openly entered the struggle and paid a very high price: 500 of our comrades were arrested and 260 were executed without trial. We carried out several guerrilla actions in spring and fall last year against officials of the regime and Russian "advisers"; so for some time we have been used to the demands and difficulties of the clandestine struggle. Our party has 33,000 members in Afghanistan, 3,500 in Pakistan and several hundred more scattered in other countries to which Afghans have emigrated (Iran, India, Germany, the United States).

[Question] Can you indicate to us the aims of your mission to Europe?

[Answer] We have set ourselves three main aims: 1) to mobilize international public opinion to illustrate the country's real situation; 2) to urge more material aid for all the combatants and particularly for our party (medical supplies, clothing, blankets, and so forth); and 3) to illustrate our plan for a political solution to the Afghan crisis. This has been sent to over 30 governments, from which we are urging specific support and on which we intend to exert pressure with a view to their persuading the USSR to accept a political solution to the crisis.

AFGHAN EDUCATION MINISTER RATEBZAD CONTINUES VISIT

Position on USSR Withdrawal

BK011610 Hong Kong AFP in English 1301 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] New Delhi, 1 Jan (AFP)--Dr Anahita Ratebzad, Afghan education minister, said in Trivandrum, south India, today that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from her country would depend on a final political settlement of the Afghan issue.

Dr Ratezbad, who is attending the tenth congress of the National Federation of Indian Women, told a press conference that such a settlement should guarantee that there would not be an aggression against Afghanistan, that Pakistan and China would not "instigate trouble" and that training of rebels would stop. She also claimed that all organized reactionary forces within the country had been broken and that the rebels numbered only a few thousand.

Dr Anahita, who arrived in India on Monday, said Mr Karmal had offered to negotiate with Pakistan and Iran but those countries had not responded. Asked if Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi could play a role in bringing about a political settlement, she said her government was convinced that India was very much interested in seeing the Afghan issue solved. Her country was very much indebted to Mrs Gandhi, she added.

The Afghan minister, who is considered to be a prominent member of the Afghan Revolution Council and a close aide of Mr Karmal, said that during the one year after the uprising of December 27, 1979, efforts had been made to strengthen her country's economy. The government had taken measures to curb prices and was subsidising essential articles needed by the population, she stated. She also said that by March the wages of lower level workers would be raised by 50 percent and that of middle level workers by 26 to 30 percent.

Kabul on Ratebzad Remarks

LD061948 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Dr Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan [DWOA] and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, yesterday in New Delhi met with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

During the meeting Dr Ratebzad handed Mrs Gandhi a message from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the DRA. PTI reports that the message reiterated Afghanistan's readiness to participate in talks with Iran and Pakistan on relevant issues for a political solution to differences in the region.

According to another report, Dr Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, DWOA chairman and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, gave an interview to a correspondent of the PATRIOT newspaper in New Delhi, saying that the political situation in Afghanistan during the past year has generally become more stabilized, that a large number of counterrevolutionary forces have been eliminated and that the DRA Government under the leadership of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the DRA, has gained control over the situation.

Dr Ratebzad said that the people of Afghanistan are resolutely determined to secure their rights and to continue the path which they have chosen.

She said that the activities of the DRA Government are supported by the great majority of Afghanistan's tribal representatives. Dr Anahita Ratebzad praised the USSR's all-round cooperation with the DRA and reiterated that the USSR's limited military presence helps the people of Afghanistan to defend their national sovereignty and independence. She severely condemned the interference of the reactionary forces of the region in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and pointed out that Pakistan has more than 50 counter-revolutionary training camps for bandits, which it infiltrates regularly into Afghanistan.

Dr Ratebzad said that we always want good relations with our neighbors and we are ready to hold talks with Pakistan and Iran on the basis of the DRA's constructive proposals made last May, so that these main problems can be solved in a peaceful manner.

Indian Diplomatic Sources' Views

BK0061555 Hong Kong AFP in English 1456 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 6 Jan (AFP)--The Afghan Government's willingness to negotiate with Pakistan and Iran in the presence of a United Nations representative was definitely a "step forward" in solving the one-year-old Afghan crisis, a source close to the Indian Foreign Office said today.

"It is a very complex diplomatic situation... the proposal can be interpreted in many different ways, but there is no denying of the fact that things have started moving again", said the source. Kabul's latest stand on a political solution of the Afghan crisis was conveyed to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi yesterday by Afghan Minister for Higher Education and Training Dr Analhita Ratebzad. Dr Ratebzad, who was here to attend a women's conference, met Mrs Gandhi yesterday for about 40 minutes without aides. "What attaches importance to the Kabul stand is that it follows soon after last week's statement of Pakistan foreign minister, that Islamabad wants the UN secretary general to name a representative to promote a dialogue between Pakistan, Iran and the ruling party in Kabul", the source said. "Mr Agha Shahi's statement and Kabul's reaction indicate that fresh efforts are afoot to intiate serious talks...there is apparently no other reason for both Islamabad and Kabul to speak about talks under the aegis or in the presence of UN", the source said.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources in the Indian capital said there was no immediate possibility of a breakthrough in solving the Afghan crisis. "The Afghan willingness to hold talks with Islamabad and Tehran in the presence of a UN representative does not convey its acceptance of a UN mediation", said a diplomatic source and asked not to be named. "In Kabul's reckoning, the May 14 proposals should remain the basic framework of any talks, even if these (talks) are held under the auspices or in the presence of UN representative", the source said.

"On the one hand Pakistan's proposal (?for) talks with the ruling PDPA in Kabul had been rejected by Mr Karmal and on the other Islamabad said a blank 'ba' to Afghanistan's offer for a government-to-government talks", the sources said. "There is [words indistinct] cohesion, unless the parties involved modify their respective stand and tone down a little", the sources said.

The non-aligned foreign minister's conference scheduled to be held here early February could become an important "meeting ground", the sources said and added: "But before that the parties involved will have to do lot of spade work to narrow down their existing differences".

ZIAUL HAQ STRESSES NEED FOR DIALOGUE WITH DRA

BK061544 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The president has said that Pakistan's latest efforts to solve the Afghanistan problem have clarified the entire issue, and Pakistan's stand has not changed. Talking to newsmen in Islamabad today, he stressed the need for a dialogue. He said that Pakistan desires a solution to the issue which is in accordance with the aspirations of the Afghan people. Soviet troops should withdraw from Afghanistan, the 1.3 million Afghan refugees should return to their homes with dignity, honor and security, and the independent, nonaligned and Islamic status of Afghanistan should be restored. He said he is confident that Pakistan's request for the UN secretary general to appoint a special representative in this regard will win full support from the international fraternity.

Regarding the Iran-Iraq war, he wished for success in efforts to restore peace between the two Islamic countries.

Referring to his forthcoming visit to Turkey and certain Gulf countries, he said that the main objective of his visits is to hold talks with the heads of these countries prior to the Islamic summit in Saudi Arabia. He expressed the hope that negotiations prior to the summit will assist in reaching a unanimous stand at the summit.

ZIAUL HAQ RULES OUT ELECTIONS 'FOR TIME BEING'

BK071058 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Excerpt] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that the government was taking certain steps such as the formation of federal council and expansion in the federal Cabinet for participation of the people in the running of the affairs of the country.

Addressing the annual convention of the Pakistan Engineering Council in Islamabad this morning he said there would also be certain changes at the federal and provincial level for ensuring the people's participation. About the federal council, he said this would be constituted as early as possible and would work on the lines of the National Assembly. He said the council was being set up because elections could not be held for the time being.

The president said the important components of the council, besides the people's representatives, will be experts drawn from 10 professional organizations, like engineers, doctors, educationists, industrialists, businessmen, chamber of commerce, lawyers and journalists.

SOVIET ECONOMIC DELEGATION CALLS ON ZIAUL HAQ

BK311742 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] The five-member Soviet delegation headed by Artemiy Alikhanov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations now on a visit to Pakistan, called on the president in Rawalpindi tonight. Later, the president hosted a dinner in honor of the delegation.

INDIAN AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH AGHA SHAHI IN ISLAMABAD

BK051603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] India has reiterated its commitment to have good relations with Pakistan. This was conveyed to Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi when Indian Ambassador Natwar Singh met him in Islamabad today. Bilateral relations are reported to have been discussed at the meeting. Mr Natwar Singh told Mr Agha Shahi that India's commitment to have good relations with Pakistan is apparent from Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi's recent statements. He also recalled that the process of normalization was started by Mrs Gandhi as early as 1972.

RAJA'I SAYS KHOMEYNI APPROVES ALGERIAN ROLE

LD070921 Tehran PARS in English 0814 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 7 Jan (PARS)--Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, referring to the hostage issue after his yesterday's meeting with Imam Khomeyni, said: "We informed the imam of the latest [word indistinct] view on the hostages and also the proposal of the Algerian Government which guaranteed to solve the crisis between Iran and the United States as an intermediary. The imam allowed us to assume the undertaking by the Algerian Government in this connection."

Unchanged Algerian Role

NC061939 Paris AFP in English 1935 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Tehran, 6 Jan (AFP)--Algerian Ambassador to Iran Abdelkarim Ghraieb today denied there had been any change in his country's role as intermediary between Tehran and Washington and the U.S. hostage crisis.

Earlier in the day, Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said on television that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni had agreed to accept a proposal by Algeria offering its good offices to resolve the remaining differences between Iran and the United States. Algeria is keeping to its role of intermediary, Mr Gharieb told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

An informed source said Iranian leaders had further talks today on the hostage problem with the three Algerian intermediaries--Mr Ghraieb, Reda Malek, ambassador to Washington, and Mohammed Seghir Mustefai, the governor of the central bank.

The source said the Tehran government could soon give its official reaction to Washington's most recent proposals for freeing the 52 hostages.

TEHRAN RADIO COMMENTS ON HOSTAGES ISSUE

JN061500 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] This week we witnessed another deadly blow dealt by the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the bases of injustice and the centers of power in the world, through the revelation of the text of the two messages sent by the U.S. Government in reply to the conditions for the hostages' release. These two messages demonstrated the U.S. Government's corrupt nature and the reliance of the ruling regime in America on lies, charlatanism and corruption to the entire world.

Upon pursuing the text of the U.S. Government's 12 November and 4 December messages to Iran, which were handed to the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Algerian delegation, we clearly see that America accepted the conditions for the hostages' release and that it offered the U.S. president's signature as a guarantee of the implementation of Iran's conditions. However, the recent Iranian reply, which was published last week before reaching the U.S. officials, contained two points, without bringing up any new matters. These are: 1) Iran cannot accept the signature of Carter or Reagan as a guarantee of the implementation of its conditions; and 2) America has to add the phrase "from now on" in terms of its commitment to nonintervention in Iran's affairs. However, we heard the clamor raised by America after it received this reply and we saw how America gave up the deceptive stand it adopted and began to trumpet lies and bring up trivialities against Iran.

The request for acceptable guarantees rather than the signature of Carter or Reagan was the Iranian people's legitimate right. Since one of the conditions stipulated the payment of a sum of money, it is quite natural that the Iranian Government reject the U.S. president's signature and ask for the deposit of a sum of money in a third state's bank instead, in order to prevent America from undertaking any act of swindling or deception. A well-known proverb says: Once bitten, twice shy. In this regard, the Iranian people have tested the U.S. presidents' true intentions and their love for humanity to the extent that they do not wish to be bitten again by the same enemy that has bitten them for 25 years. Therefore, we leave the importance and value of the signatures of Carter or Reagan to those who imagine America's bites to be honey and who imagine that reneger is a word that doesn't exist in the ruling U.S. regime's dictionary.

Now, in order to know the truth of the American Government's leaders and their agents and in order to know how they are lying and how easily they renege on their promises, we will read together some of what has been reported by the White House information media, so that we can accurately understand their filthy nature and realize the strength of the blow dealt to the bases of international imperialism by the Iranian Government through its publication of the text of that reply message. In this respect, we will begin with the Washington POST, a semiofficial organ of the White House, whose items are considered part of the general U.S. policy line. This newspaper, which was talking about the Iranian Government's good intentions and about the agreement reached between the two governments on the release of the hostages and the solution to their problems, suddenly turned topsy turvy following the publication of the Iranian reply. In its editorial on 27 December it wrote: Thirteen months after the detention of the American diplomats by a number of stupid fanatics, it seems that the hostages have not yet even approached their freedom. The editorial was full of curses for the Islamic people and revolution. It is not known why the newspaper behaved this way, when it previously spoke of the Iranians' good intentions and the U.S. Government's strong desire to establish relations with the Iranian Islamic Revolution. It also used to praise the Iranians and their courage.

This newspaper added: America is still negotiating patiently and calmly with the noncommitted hardline Iranian leaders and we do not understand why the Iranian leaders consider the American proposals useless. In reply to the writer of this editorial and in order to make him understand the true state of affairs, we must say that he had better review the other cases and issues prepared very accurately by America--cases and issues that were useless in their results--so that he can understand the reason for the futility of the recent American proposals. For example, the reasons behind the failure of the American aggression against the Tabas Desert, the failure of Shahpur Bakhtiar's U.S. plot on 9 July 1980 and the exposure of the aggression planned by Saddam against Iran, all can help make the Washington POST writer understand the reasons for the recent plot's failure. If he believes that Carter can ridicule (?us) and receive the hostages simply by signing a few papers, he is making a big mistake.

We have tested the Americans' methods for 25 years. Whenever the U.S. presidents talked about honor, conscience and humanity, we knew that we were being served their bitter taste again, in the American style.

The Washington POST editorial continues: The students have become mischievous [ash-shaqi] terrorists, the mullahs have taken the shape of new exploiters and educated innocent diplomats have become [words indistinct] uneducated and uncivilized, whereas, if we punish the Iranians' savagery and barbarism as they deserve, the Iranians will regret what they have done with regard to the hostages.

You may have become acquainted, dear listener, with the lies and trifles of those who claim to be civilized in today's world. You may also have realized how far removed they are from civilization and culture, because they have not realized that by his signature the president of their republic was pledging the honor of such writers to guarantee the payment of Iran's rights.

Everyone realizes that Iran has chosen the best path by disregarding the signature of this corrupt group's leader. What is funnier is that the Washington POST proposed that the Iranians get the punishment they deserve, as if the plots and intrigues they committed in Iran during the past 2 years were not enough. The American officials believe that the sedition in Kordestan and Tabriz, the strikes at the beginning of 1978, the operations of sabotage in Khuzestan, the explosion in Tehran, the attack on the Tabas Desert, Bakhtiar's plot, Saddam's aggression against Iran and other acts are not enough punishment for the Iranian revolution. Therefore, they intend to punish the Iranians in the manner they deserve. This punishment can only mean a comprehensive military offensive against Iran. The results of this offensive are clear right now. They can only be the destruction and annihilation of America. The first result of this offensive would undoubtedly be the burning of the Persian Gulf, a vital path for America. America, which stored oil for itself and its friends, has [words indistinct] due to the continuation of Iraq's war with Iran. Consequently, it would not be able to bear the (?depletion) of the oilwells it needs in the Persian Gulf region. Therefore, if America wants to undertake a crazy act and to begin a large-scale and comprehensive attack against Iran, in order to insure the resumption of oil production and export from the Persian Gulf after Iran's destruction, it would be resorting to a double-edged weapon and exposing the U.S. economy to downfall and annihilation.

All of this could happen, should America successfully carry out its schemes and achieve the final result of eliminating the Iranian Government. Beyond that, the slightest error resulting from America's computers could lead to terrible results and repercussions, which America's leaders would be horrified even to imagine.

Now, we are armed with the strength of our faith and you with aircraft carriers and bombers that are fully loaded and with bases in Oman, Somalia, Iraq, Egypt and Jordan, not to mention your well-studied schemes and trained forces, which are ready to attack. Thus we would like to offer advice to the Pentagon officials and say that this time they should take into account not only the heroic steadfastness of the soldiers and revolution guards and the bravery of the pilots and naval personnel, but the dangers of sandstorms. And since other dangers may occur, which cannot be foreseen even by the American computers, we propose that they include the danger of sharks in the Persian Gulf in their schemes and calculations, if they really want to guarantee victory. In addition, they must not ignore the danger of birds in Iran's skies, something that might cause a gross scandal that would take a long time for the White House to live down.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH--which is considered the most reactionary British paper, a servant to the capitalists' interests, a blaring trumpet for Zionist circles in London and an organ of U.S. policy--wrote in an editorial in its 23 December edition that recent Iranian developments show that the U.S. secretary of state had the right to blow up with anger at the Iranian attempt to blackmail the Americans before releasing the 52 U.S. hostages. The paper added that the Iranians' conditions are like asking for a ransom or like a bandit asking for loot.

This is a sample of the malice contained in this DAILY TELEGRAPH editorial. And yet these British, who claim to be civilized, are beating Iranian passengers at London airport. They even let their policemen's horses step on Iranian students, claiming that they staged demonstrations against the United States. These British say that the U.S. secretary of state has the right to be angry and say that Iran's letter is like asking for a ransom.

It would have been a deep shame and a great scandal for us if papers like THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, which used to praise the shah's circles in almost every edition, supported us after our revolution.

Let us now read together a sample of the stories fabricated by the U.S. papers, these papers that are filled with lies and that distort facts without any feelings of guilt. In its 29 December edition the Washington POST said: Iran has now reconsidered its stand in less than one week after releasing its recent demands. This step complicates the crisis, because the demand for a guarantee of $24 billion and the eventual lifting of the freeze currently imposed on Iran's $9 billion assets, has changed the course of developments.

We would like to say the following to the Washington POST writer: Iran did not announce that it reconsidered its demands. What Iran said was that it rejected Carter's signature, because of his lies and inhuman acts. The demands are the same and the guarantee should be accepted by both sides, in accordance with international norms and principles. And since we do not have absolute confidence in the signature of the United States of America, our position is clear right from the outset. Furthermore, isn't the signature of the U.S. president intended to guarantee the payment of the money? Therefore, would it not be better to put this signature on a document transfering the assets to a safe place, so that the U.S. president would be satisfied and also to guarantee against any evil temptations felt by the president? Carter considers his intention to guarantee the payment of Iran's assets a just and most civilized gesture. Meanwhile, they consider us uncivilized, barbaric and even extortionists when we ask that these assets be moved to a safe place.

The Washington POST, which said that the Iranians are demanding a $24 billion guarantee and the lifting of the freeze on another $9 billion, must go back to the demands approved by the Islamic Majlis and the two messages that were sent by the U.S. Government and published by the Iranian Government. It will find that Mr Carter was willing to sign the document guaranteeing the return of the assets that were looted by the accursed shah. The Washington POST will also find that its correspondent was trying to distort the facts.

The truth is, Iran's firm stand toward the United States has resulted in a significant development in the United States, although it has not yet come out in the open and although very few well-informed persons yet realize the grave effects of this development. This development is the existence of differences and splits among the U.S. people in the last 3 weeks, because of the balanced Iranian stands and the childish actions of the U.S. Government. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR has revealed some aspects of this development. It said that the U.S. people are fed up with the propaganda tricks of their leaders and politicians. Many Americans are now openly against the comedies of the White House.

In its 29 December issue, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR said that what has recently fanned the American people's anger is the damage done to U.S. integrity and international prestige. Although military action is the only option, no one, not even the U.S. president himself, can guarantee support of the U.S. people if a decision were made to resort to military action to save the hostages. The paper added that some people in the United States still believe that their leaders should have offered direct support to the shah in order to avoid the present situation. But the majority of the people believe that the United States should not have gone against the Iranian people's demands, and the U.S. Government should have refrained from supporting and defending the shah right from the start.

Therefore, the most important result of the publication of the Iranian reply to the U.S. letter was the creation of a split among the Americans. This is equivalent to dealing a fatal blow to this criminal superpower. This is why the United States and its agents are now calling the Iranian people names that should actually be directed at themselves, especially after the publication of the Iranian reply.

KHOMEYNI SPEAKS TO RAJA'I CABINET MEMBERS

LD062048 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 06 Jan 81

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni at 6 January meeting in Tehran with Prime Minister Raja'i and Iranian Cabinet--recorded, 23 minute duration]

[Text] Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, and all the members of the Government Council [Shora-ye Dowlat] were received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this meeting the imam of the nation in a speech addressed to the prime minister and the members of the Government Council issued certain guidelines. We bring this hour's newscast of the voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran to an end by broadcasting the text of this speech. May God protect you.

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I beseech God for the success of all the gentlemen. I hope you will be successful in serving this country and in improving the present condition you are in. I will refer to a few points which I can remember. The problems we face today are the differences which can be seen. No matter how much you work, if you do not try to get rid of the differences, those who wish to find fault with your work will find fault. There is no doubt about that. Some people are going through the streets and the bazaars and spreading poison. You should try hard so that, God willing, a psychological calm will be brought about. In a calm atmosphere work can be done faster and better.

Concerning what you told me in this small room, it is better that any of you who is in charge of something announces it on the radio and tells the people that if anyone has any objections--for instance if they think that what you are saying is not right--they should come and inform you, inform you in the newspapers and through mass media about the things you said concerning electricity and other things; if people believe that the Islamic republic has not done anything, but that it has even gone backwards compared to the satanic period whoever claims this should come and say so. They should come and say that you have not done what you claim you have done. If they have not spoken out it shows that you have acted, and the people will not listen to those who say that the government has not done anything and is not capable of doing anything. It does not mean that after doing so there will be no criticism, but there will be less criticism among the people. Those who wish to criticize will do so, but the people will no longer believe them. Your silence concerning what you do means that criticism is being voiced but approval is not being voiced.

Each of you who is in a ministry, who is in charge of a ministry, should regard it as your duty to tell the people of your deeds. What should not be spoken of are these personal issues. But if you do not talk about the actions and the services which you have performed, it will lead to corruption and will lead to you becoming weaker. When you do something you should tell the nation that you have done these things, you should announce them on the television and on the radio and say that whoever is opposed to what you have done should come and say so. Whoever thinks that you have done what you say you have done should come and say so. You should make a comparison between these 2 years and the previous years. Of course, Mr Bahonar said that a third of all the schools built in Iran over the long years were built by us over the past 2 years. These are things which should be said, so that the people are made aware of them and understand what the government is doing for them. It is not right if someone does something but the people do not come to learn what service has been rendered. Of course, in the villages the villagers themselves know, but in the cities people do not learn about them. These things should be said. Every so often one of you should go on the radio and say that you have done all these things.

What is important in my eyes is the differences which exist [words indistinct]. They do not have any roots except carnal roots. Try to solve these problems among yourselves. In each ministry there are some people who wish to do certain things, who wish to prevent the work from being carried out. You should calmly and with wisdom familiarize them with their duties. If sometimes you see that someone is not paying any attention you should purge them. If there has been a mistake concerning those who have been purged, return them to their positions so that they may serve. I hope that all the shortcomings will be eliminated and that, God willing, soon this war will also come to an end. As it has been said, there has been great progress. I hope that this will be followed up and that the country will find peace although they will not let us find peace in the near future. Every day they start a new mischief.

You and we should be determined, our nation should be determined, not to lose what it has achieved. The value of what we have achieved is more than what we have lost, although the value of the youth we have lost is very high. Nevertheless, a nation which wishes to attain freedom and independence should face such losses. Now our nation is united. They do not regard the government as separate from themselves. They regard the country as their own and they regard the government as their own. Therefore, it is unlikely that those who wish to inflict harm will be able to do so. If you familiarize the nation with what you have done, if you familiarize those who are not familiar with what you have done, if you tell them about the issues, if you go among the people and tell them about the issues then the words of the individuals or groups who do not want the Islamic republic to be established will not be effective any more.

In any case, the nation that we now possess is unique. I do not believe any of you can think of a nation which is with its government the way that this nation is, that does things together.

In the past they tried to create obstacles as much as they could. There was no question of cooperation, because the people had seen that the government was not thinking of them. You should make the people understand, as is in fact the case, that you have come in order to serve the people, that the departments have come in order to serve, so that the people will willingly come to the departments. The (?fear) which existed in the past, which existed at the time of Reza Khan and then in his [the former shah's] time, at the time of Reza Khan as I was young I used to go to various departments at times. [sentence as heard] If one had a need to the police stations and, for instance, if they wanted to go to Azarbayjan they had to go to the police station and get a paper or something. When the people wanted to go to the police stations they did so with fear and trepidation as though they were going to prison. It should not be the custom in the departments that when the people wish to go to the departments they are afraid. As it was so in the past, these poor people think it is the same today. The doors of the departments should be open to the people; the people should be accepted with open arms; the people should tell them of the problems they have; they should be able to talk to them. They should try to solve the problems of the people. The people should feel that this government belongs to them and that they are serving them. When the nation realizes that a group of people are serving them and that the pomps and palaces which existed in the past no longer exist, and that they also lead ordinary lives or that, perhaps, they are even lower than ordinary people, and when the people see this--as their characters and pure--they will be moved, especially after the situation which existed in the past. Many people might have forgotten what went on before. When a government has come only to do service, which tries to bring about the well-being of the people, which wishes the people to attain what they need both from economic as well as educational needs; when people feel that the government belongs to them and that there are no longer any highly connected people, that this is not so any longer, but that a [words indistinct], when the people became familiar with these things, when they see your services on the television, when they see you on the television and hear you on the radio they will naturally support you more.

Even now, thanks to God, the nation supports all of you. The nation supports all the government organizations. They support the government and also the armed forces. Do you think that if a war had taken place before, that the people would try to help. This was not so. If something happened, if the people could not destroy the government they certainly would not support it. But now you see the children, the adults, the old women come and give everything they possess to the war victims, to the armed forces. Those who have eyes to see, not those who have blind hearts, should look at these things.

They say the Islamic republic is the same as before. Can you find such a thing in all history? Can you find such a thing now anywhere in the world where the people willingly act and hold one another's hands for the sake of their country, for their nation and for their government? What better things do you expect from the Islamic republic? Of course, there are problems. There are problems everywhere. See if the problems of the nations which have had a revolution in the past exist in Iran. Even now they have long queues. Even now they have shortages. Even now the Soviet Union is in need of America, for instance to acquire its grain.

With the revolution which took place in Iran about 2 years ago, more or less, and you find such a thing in any other place that now you say things are the same now as they were in the past? [sentence as heard] Despite all the difficulties, the services which have been rendered during these 2 years, the fact that everywhere they are busy repairing, providing for health, serving, and the entire nation is assisting, can they find such a thing in any other place that they can come and say that between now and the time of the shah. [sentence as heard] Can one be so unjust to say that there is no change between now and the time of the shah? The freedom which you observe now, well everyone can go whenever he likes to go, everyone can go to any street and (?carry any slogan he wishes).

In the past even if you were very good people you were in your own homes and had nothing to do with the events. Sometimes some generalities were written in a newspaper or in a magazine. Now you are free. Now you are treated well. You have the best (?freedom). At that time, everything was in the hands of (?one person). Now, it is not so. Of course, throughout the world, countries have certain mutual needs. This is not dependence. For instance, we need to purchase wheat. We pay money and buy wheat. That is not dependence. Dependence is what existed at the time of the shah. The Soviet Union also has a need to buy [word indistinct] from America, but is not dependent on America. America also needs to import certain things. But trade relations are not dependence. Dependence was what we had at the time of the shah when they had to come and administer everything we had. Advisers had to come and [words indistinct]. Mutual buying and selling is not dependence. Now Iran is not dependent on anybody, and this is the best thing which the Islamic republic has brought. There is also freedom. Therefore, when it is said that the government is not really a good government, and that we have a certain dependence and there is no freedom, and so on, it is not true. This is all sabotage. They are mistaken, even if what they say is true [as heard]. [Words indistinct] they thought that when the Islamic republic came, those who believe neither in the Islamic republic nor in Islam would come and administer the country. Now, they have seen that they cannot do it. [words indistinct]

Therefore, it is partly our own mistake [words indistinct]. There are certain difficulties in the courts. In the committees and so on. For instance, among the revolution guards, although they are very good people, it is possible that some people might have penetrated their ranks in the name of guards and carry out corruption. A person might have penetrated certain places and carry out corruption. In the early days of Islam certain people would penetrate the Islamic (?society) and practise corruption. These things should be investigated.

All the defects which exist, and there are a lot of them, should be investigated, their correctness should be properly investigated and matters put right. The objections which also sometimes exist, about the courts or prisons and other places should also be investigated and be put right. They should see if anything wrong exists and put it right. I hope that these things will be put right and that the Islamic republic is established in its true sense and proper meaning. The transformation which has come about in Iran is unique. In a short time a nation which lived [words indistinct] suddenly changed into a nation which is prepared for war and for martyrdom. They are happy; some people even weep, saying that they do not let us go and (?be martyred). I hope this transformation is maintained. So long as it is maintained this place will not be harmed. Even if they carry out military intervention, or do whatever they like, it will not be harmed. I even assume the ultimate, that it is harmed and all of us are destroyed; nevertheless, we will have acted according to our responsibility. We are Muslims. We are responsible in the eyes of God. Now that you are in charge of (?affairs) you are responsible in the eyes of God. Do not think that whatever you do does not matter. No, all your actions will be in the sight of God and you are responsible and you will be questioned. Every one of you will be questioned. You will be questioned about everything you do. All of them will be questioned. Even if we imagine that we are destroyed, we are destroyed on the path of a reality. [words indistinct] Even if such a thing happens in Iran, it will shake the whole world and life will become [word indistinct] for the whole world. Therefore, we have never had any fear about such things and we have never been afraid of war and the threats that they make. We are on the side of truth. Why should we be frightened when we are on the side of truth. The same thing was said by His Holiness 'Ali, may peace be upon him, to [word indistinct]. When he was told about [words indistinct], he said: Are we not on the side of truth? He answered: Yes, we are on the side of truth. He said: Then why should we be frightened? There is no fear. This is the issue.

I hope that all of you will be successful and that you will closely examine your own actions, because your actions are in the sight of God, and also closely examine your own department. The basis should be a proper basis. Corrupt individuals who wish to do corruption should not be there. If improper individuals exist, give them advice, but if they are not capable of improvement put them aside (?before they do corruption). I hope that everything will be put right and that we will advance with success and that, God willing, all the difficulties will be eliminated. [end recording]

RAJA'I ADDRESSES CEREMONY AT KHORASAN SQUARE

LD061653 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0933 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Speech by Prime Minister 'Ali Raja'i at 5 January ceremony held at Khorasan Square in Tehran to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Hasan--recorded; passages monitored on Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1042 GMT on 5 January and published in the Iran section of the 5 January DAILY REPORT, pages I 1 and 2, are omitted from this report.]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I take refuge in God from the expelled Satan (Koranic verse].

Our society must shed Western contamination. We never want to have a society for training [words indistinct] and anarchy. We have thrown away the Western social standards. [shouts of approval from the crowd] In Eastern society a human being is considered a tool, and the final aim in education is to (?use) human beings as devices in the process of development. In (?Western society) a human being is not suitable for (?the battlefield).

Following years of review and investigation, when our people fully understood Western and Eastern types of governments and when they realize that the national front, with all its power, intended to drag us toward adopting a government and a regime which was very similar to a Western regime, they rejected it. [shouts of approval from the crowd] When our nation saw that our source of emulation, Ayatollah Borujerdi [religious source of emulation before Khomeyni] [words indistinct] and the national front did not bother to organize a memorial service, it realized that these leaders could not be considered leaders of our Muslim people. [shouts of "God is the greatest"]

When the nation saw that another combative group in our society, having dear Islam in its hands, adopted an Eastern ideology and presented Marxism as a science to our youth, cast that group into the dustbin of history, too. [shouts of approval from the crowd] Our people, with full vigilance, rejected East and West and introduced a government [1-minute break in transmission] The nation has put aside Eastern and Western style regimes and has tried hard to bring about the realization of an Islamic republic. Our government wants its colleagues to adopt a similar approach. We intend to build Muslim, independent and confident human beings. This is the longstanding desire of our Muslim nation, and the government should make it a reality. Our people are resolved to build Muslim, independent and confident human beings and will do their best to implement this objective. This is what frightens counterrevolutionaries. Counterrevolutionaries do not want us to build Muslim, independent and confident human beings. But we, with the succour of God and support of the Muslim and committed people of Iran, are determined to build an Islamic society with Muslim, committed and self-confident people and present it to the world. And God willing, we shall succeed. [shouts of "God willing"]

The noble and honorable people of Iran, or as the imam says: "Our nice people," are tolerating all the discomforts of war. Our people tolerate the use of a limited amount of gasoline so that planes and machinery of the corps of Islam can fight with the necessary mobility. [long shouts of approval from the crowd] If the port of Khuninshahr is temporarily occupied by the enemy, and if the port of Bandar Khomeyni is not operational and there is less possibility of importing foodstuffs, our people not only show their revolutionary fervor by consuming less, but also sincerely donate from what little they have to the Muslim people who are fighting on the battlefields in order to drive out Saddam and his mercenaries. [shouts of "God is the greatest" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

If a person knows sociology and really wants to know what our people are saying, it is sufficient to move through this 1 million-strong mass of Muslim people to see that these people take from their own plate and give it to soldiers, guards and other fighting people.

Dear revolutionary compatriots, the government faces two important issues. One is how the government should run the country--the revolutionary planning that could bring about our society's transformation. In running the country, we have the problem of the war victims; 1,500,000 of our Muslim people have been made homeless because of this imposed war. They should be provided with [words indistinct] clothing and homes; they cost an average of 600 million-1 billion tomans a month; the government must assume this expense and will do so humbly and [words indistinct] in any form possible. [shouts of "God is great"] Here we see that, fortunately, the ungrudging support of the people from all classes exists concerning the catering for our dear, war-stricken compatriots: Those who owned empty houses placed them at the disposal of the autnorities; those who owned blankets and other essential commodities placed them at the disposal of the authorities; those who had savings gave them to the relief headquarters.

The second issue is that of the war. The government is actively involved in the war. In accordance with our revolutionary duty, we of the government have not forgotten the revolution guards corps, the army, the gendarmerie or the mobilization. Our governors general give their complete cooperation to the army and the corps throughout the country.

Another problem that we face is to tolerate and bear with the atmosphere created by the counterrevolution. In order for us to build our society on revolutionary bases, in order to realize the Islamic revolution, we need calmness more than ever. But the counter-revolution--which knows that if we had peace, we would build an Iran that would astound the world--places obstacles in our path. The government intends to remain patient, firm and steadfast in face of this atmosphere, accusations and difficulties, for this is the decree of the revolution. [words indistinct] The imam has decreed and the people have decreed. We shall stand firm in obeying this decree and send the internal and external counter-revolutionaries to their graves.

Be calm in face of conspiracies and dissension. The counterrevolutionaries want to prevent us from exercising control. We should oust the counterrevolutionaries from our lives as forcefully as possible.

Brothers and sisters, the main reason for opposition to the government falls in two categories. The first is that in its foreign policy the government has been decisive and uncompromising, inspired as it is by the revolution's culture; all the people of the world, especially our revolutionary compatriots, are witness to and would testify that in our foreign policy we have strongly resisted the Eastern and Western powers. This resistance has maddened the enemy. We are equally resolute regarding the East. The internal Eastern and Western elements do not let us use our power against the Eastern and Western imperialism; they distract our attention. However, they should know that, in face of pressure from the West and conspiracies by the East, we shall not retreat by one step. [shouts of "God is great"]

The second reason for the counterrevolution's opposition to us is that in our domestic policy we stood firm against foreign agents in face of conspiracies; they should know that this decisiveness and resistance will continue in face of any plot, that no power--whether it is financed by Eastern or Western imperialism--could halt this revolution. [shouts of "God is great"]

LEADERS DISCUSS 5 JAN OFFENSIVE IN SOUTH

Bani-Sadr Newspaper Article

NC061823 Paris AFP in English 1814 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 6 Jan (AFP)--The Iranian counter-offensive against Iraq launched yesterday was planned on December 20 at a meeting between Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and military leaders, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr wrote in today's edition of the newspaper ISLAMIC REVOLUTION. Mr Bani-Sadr said that Defense Minister Col Javad Fakuri, Chief of Staff Gen Yaliollah Fallahi and Supreme Defense Council spokesman Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i were present at the meeting.

The president said that Ayatollah Khomeyni had asked the military men why the offensive, "which has been discussed for some time," had not yet been launched. Answering the question, Mr Bani-Sadr said that "other non-material elements were also involved." However, Ayatollah Khomeyni then replied that "if we do not go ahead with the offensive, morale in the country could be upset and we could witness the birth of a danger before which I myself and the president would be impotent."

At the end of the meeting, Mr Bani-Sadr wrote, he asked Gen Fallahi to order military commanders to launch the counter-offensive. The Iranian president is commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Khamene'i Interview

LD060914 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0448 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, military adviser to Ayatollah Khomeyni, by an unidentified correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran following the offensive by the Iranian Army on the southern front--recorded, date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Excellency Khamene'i, [words indistinct], could you tell us how the offensive was carried out? [words indistinct]

[Answer] The attack was carried out by our armored forces. Of course don't let me mention the names of the units which were on the frontline and had direct participation in the attack, in other words carried out the main struggle, because from a military point of view this cannot be mentioned. Anyway, it was our armored forces which started the attack at 1000 and from the first moment after the attack had started it was obvious that the progress of our own forces was very good and that the enemy could not resist.

[Question] Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, we have received various statistics that the number of enemy captives is between 200 and 1,200. What was the latest number you observed when you were there?

[Answer] The latest number I was informed of, in other words what has been reported to us, is much more than the maximum figure you just mentioned. It has been reported to me that we have about 2,000 captives.

[Question] Your Excellency Khamene'i, could you tell us, with today's offensive what major change has taken place on the southern fronts and what is the situation on the other [words indistinct] fronts in the west of the country?

[Answer] Of course I have no accurate information about the fronts in the west of the country, but in my opinion today's attack, which must definitely continue, has completely changed the scene on the southern fronts. Some time ago, perhaps about 1 and a half months ago, the enemy did not have a good offensive position, but it had good, strong defensive positions. Today's attack has almost entirely crushed the enemy's defensive positions in the south of Khuzestan, in other words the enemy has no point on which it can stand down to the border. Our forces can continue their progress down to the border, to Salamcheh.

Raja'i Congratulations

LD061238 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1046 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that the following message has been sent by the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran as a result of the triumph of the forces of Islam over the infidels:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. When the help of God and victory come [part of Koranic verse]; greetings to the army of God, the forces of Islam, the mobilization of the oppressed and all the regular and irregular forces who are fighting on the fronts of the war between right and wrong. The news of your victories and your extensive, pride-inspiring, glorious offensive on the southern and western fronts, and of the capture of hundreds of the Ba'thist mercenaries and your great victory brought joy to the imam of the nation and the people throughout Iran and reminded us of the prophet's triumphant wars.

On behalf of myself, the Cabinet and colleagues, I congratulate Imam Khomeyni, imam of the nation, great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic republic, the martyr-nurturing people, all esteemed commanders and all combatants of Islam's front on this victory.

I hope that the news of your victories, until the invading forces are completely repulsed and the region is purged of the aggressors, is told to the people of Iran as soon as possible, and that it may prove to the world that the blood of the martyrs of the Islamic revolution will overcome the swords of the oppressors of the world, with the help of Almighty God. [sentence as heard]

I appeal for unity and solidarity from all the brave military, dear guardsmen, esteemed mobilization personnel and the fighting forces in the war between right and wrong. I bring you the blessings of the prayers of all the faithful and hope that your efforts may pave the way for the fighting Muslim Iraqi brothers and sisters to raise the banner of the Islamic republic in the holy land of Iraq; that the oppressions of the American Saddam may leave the land of the prophets and the guiding imams; that An-Najaf, Karbala', (?Samarra') and Al-Kazimiyah may be open to pilgrims, and that the day may come when the oppressed of the world witness the triumph of the hustice-seekers and unite against world blasphemy.

[Signed] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

BANI-SADR TO MONTAZERI: STUDY KHUZESTAN PROBLEMS

LD021822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1645 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and the commander-in-chief, sent a telegram to the esteemed Faqih [jurisconsult] Ayatollah Montazeri as follows:

In His exalted name, Your Great Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri, I read your telegram addressed to the Friday imam and the ulema of Ahvaz in the papers. There are many grievances. I beg your eminence to go to Khuzestan either today or tomorrow and observe and study the situation closely and pass your own judgment and communicate it to the people. I think your meeting with commanders in charge of the fronts would be very fruitful. It only suffices to say that your trip might begin a tradition of research into these affairs. These are destiny making days and supporting the armed forces and boosting their morale would, God willing, result in our victory.

[Signed] The president, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, 2 January 1981

Montazeri Reply

LD040459 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0334 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] In reply to the cable by President Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr to His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri, the following cable was sent by the Esteemed Jourisconsult, His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri, to Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr:

In His exalted name. Mr Bani-Sadr the honorable president of Iran, may you have success. Greetings:

I heard your cable on television [as heard]: It would have been best at least to ask me by telephone regarding my anxiety over the events on the fronts and the breaches of repeated promises regarding the attack on the enemy, which would lead to disregard of the high morale of the armed forces. [sentence as heard] I think that if you were in my shoes and were in close daily contact with various classes of the people, the combative and self-sacrificing youths among the soldiers, NCO's and officers of the army and the guards corps and mobilization headquarters and the officials responsible for organization, who normally spend months on the fronts, and who come to my house with grievances about negligences and to report on the conditions on the fronts and complain and seek religious advice; while, naturally it would not be justified to claim lack of knowledge of war issues and to investigate all their cases, they could have been proper channels of information and news for you. [sentence as heard] Your judgment was otherwise and you did not deem it necessary to reinspect the front and meet the commanders again.

In my opinion, it would be in the interests of Islam and the Muslims to preserve solidarity and to obey the decisive guidelines of the leader and to respect the nation and the Majlis and divine standards and accomplish a speedy, complete expulsion of the enemy from the territory of the Islamic homeland.

We have a great responsibility to the blood of the dear, brave youths of Islam and more than 1 million Muslim homeless people. I consider the army, guards corps and mobilization headquarters as my brothers and consider it my religious duty to spiritually and materially endorse and fortify them on every occasion, and will pray for them during my Friday prayers.

I ask Almighty God, for your success in the service of Islam and the Islamic Republic. In the hope of the attack by the Iranian Armed Forces and the triumph of the forces of Islam over the infidels.

May peace be upon you.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

MONTAZERI, LEADERS, GROUPS EXCHANGE CABLES

Cables Bani-Sadr

LD061240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1042 GMT 6 Jan 81

["Text" of 6 January cable sent by His Excellency Ayatollah ol-'Ozma Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri to President Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr on the occasion of an Iranian "victory" over Iraqi forces]

[Text] In His exalted name. O believers, if you help God, he will help you and confirm your footsteps. [Koranic verse] To his excellency Mr Bani-Sadr, the honorable president of Iran, greetings.

The extensive offensive by the warriors of Islam against the Ba'thist, infidel forces of Iraq and their outstanding victory fulfilled the wishes of the nation and the imam. This brave attack shows the existence of high morale and the necessary preparedness for the advance of the armed forces of Islam. Therefore, I deem it necessary to reiterate my commendation and endorsement of the armed forces of Islam, the army, the revolution guards corps, the mobilization and the brave frontier guards of the Islamic homeland. I hope that, as the imam, may his shadow extend, has said, this move will continue and bring final victory; and that the holy Islamic land of Iran and Iraq will be cleansed of the aggressive infidels soon.

I ask God Almighty for your good health and success, for the glory of the forces of Islam and for the demise of the forces of blasphemy.

6 January 1981.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

Guards Back Montazeri Call

LD041914 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps today issued a statement as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Hold the Koran in one hand and your weapon in the other, and defend your honor and prestige so hard that they are not able to act against you--quote from Imam Khomeyni.

Every day that passes in the life of our blessed Islamic revolution, our heroic nation under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, by overcoming difficulties and breaking barriers of discord and blasphemy, gains new revolutionary experience, and obtains the results of its honesty and resilience in the form of repeated divine victories. As the imam says: The history of Islam has never witnessed youth like ours, except for a short period in *early Islamic era.*

When our leader and commander explained to us (?the advantages) of fighting against the mercenaries of the Iraqi regime, our nation well realized that the imam was giving us the good news that God is testing us. When the hope of the imam and the nation, his great eminence Ayatollah Montazeri, spoke of the suffering with which we are confronted, then we became certain that this guidance will be the beginning of action and hard effort by all the military personnel and the guards, who are languishing in their longing to achieve one of the two desirables, namely victory or martyrdom. The remarks and guidance by the imam's rib and the vigilant conscience of our Islamic nation [poetic references to Montazeri] brought a glimmer of hope to the hearts of all the war-stricken oppressed, who under the cowardly bombardment of the criminal regime of Iraq are losing their lives in defense of Islamic territory and are not deserting their homes and cities.

Our zealous brothers of the armed forces witnessed how in battlefields (?rivers) of blood are formed from the blood of the children of Islam, the soldiers and the guards, and we are certain that the mixture of these bloods of one color will expose all the conspiracies of the superpowers--inside the country and abroad--the hypocrites, and infidels who are trying to create discord in the cohesive ranks of the Muslims by poisonous propaganda.

We are always hopeful that with the guidance of the struggling clergy--as the imam of the nation referred to during his speech to Friday imams--shortcomings will be rectified.

Our zealous brothers of the armed forces and the self-sacrificing personnel of the Islamic guards corps, with the cooperation of the popular mobilization forces and other brave combatants, by relying on undiminishing divine power, are prepared to carry out a full attack and with all in their power inflict successive offensive blows at the blood-sucking enemy and bury him in the battlefields, and free the oppressed nation of Iraq from the evil of this germ of corruption.

In the hope of the greater victory of Islam against blasphemy and discord.

[Signed] The Command Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corp

Ahvaz Clergy Ask Intercession

LD030457 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] According to PARS, the Society of Khuzestan Clergy sent a cable to the esteemed theologian Ayatollah Montazeri. The text of the cable is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To the esteemed and fighting theologian His Excellency Ayatollah ol-'Ozma Montazeri.

Your consoling message which told of your sympathy with the martyr-nurturing people of Ahvaz and your complaints about the inertia and inactivity on the fronts of Islam, since it reflected the wishes and grievances of the deprived people of this province and the shouts of the fighters on this front, brought gratitude to the Society of Khuzestan Clergy, and brought a glimmer of hope to us, the army personnel, and the guards corps.

The people of this region, especially the brave combatants whose heroic struggles and self-sacrifices are unsurpassed in history, have repeatedly expressed their dissatisfaction concerning the state of inertia and the failure to issue orders to attack. It would be extremely appropriate for that indefatigable crusader [Montazer] who has always been abreast of events and conditions at the fronts, and who has been familiarized with the grievances and wishes of the various strata of the army, including officers, NCO's, soldiers, and the guards corps, by having had close contact with them--to give your information to the imam of the nation and the great leader of the revolution.

No doubt the moral support of your excellency and the committed clergy and the moral and material support of the muslim people of Iran for the warriors of Islam and also your invaluable remarks--which have always likened the martyrs of this battle to those of Karbala--have given additional encouragement to these forces in the crusade against the Ba'this Iraqi infidels.

At present the ultimate wish of the martyr and martyr-nurturing nation of Iran is for a decisive decision, suitable to the noble Islamic revolution and in line with the imam's leadership, to be made concerning this important issue upon which the fate of the Islamic nation rests.

May peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Signed on behalf of the Society of Khuzestan Clergy, Seyyed Saleh Taheri, Friday imam of Ahvaz.

More Ahvaz Support

LD032214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 03 Jan 81

[Text] The following cable was dispatched today by the governor-general's office in Khuzestan as well as by revolutionary institutions of the province, addressed to His Great Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To Qom, the holy residence of His Great Eminence and the indefatigable mojahed Ayatollah Montazeri.

Your promising cable addressed to the clerical community in Ahvaz, which was a crystalization of the inner feelings of the brave and martyr-nurturing people of this province as well as those of the valiant army and the entrenched mojahedin, revived our bodies with a new spirit.

Having faced the heroic resistance of the courageous people and the self-sacrificing Islamic fighters on war fronts and felt that they could not achieve their ominous ends this way, the Iraqi infidels resorted to plots in order to create discord between the combative clergy and the revolution guards corps, on one hand, and the valiant combatants of the three forces on the other. They also resorted to crushing the most dynamic force in the society, namely, the genuine clergy, headed by the vice-regency of the supreme jurisconsult.

We categorically state that it was the vice-regency of the supreme jurisconsult that created the victorious epic of 8 September and made the revolution victorious on 11 February. It was also this very combative clergy which, following the enemy invasion of the Islamic territory, lovingly hastened toward the war fronts and put up a resistance in Khuninshahr for more than 40 days.

At present, the presence of more than 600 mojahed clergy alongside other combatants on frontlines is indicative of the depth of their awareness and combativeness. As peshmergas for the vice-regency of the supreme jurisconsult and as clerical community, a community that, with the commencement of the enemy's invasion, has been a target of dastardly attacks and, having taken up arms, has fought the enemy, call on your excellency, who has always been in the process of events from close quarters as well as being aware of the developments taking place on battlefronts, to inform the imam of the nation and the leader of the revolution of your just views. As for us, we are prepared to make available our military information and proposals to all those claiming expertise.

May we, under the prophet-like guidance provided by the imam and the self-sacrifices of the noble and Muslim Iranian nation as well as the bravery of all Islamic combative forces, send the defeated enemy to history's graveyard forever. If God grants you victory no one can defeat you [Koranic verse]

[Signed] Corps of Revolution Guards and Reconstruction Crusade of Khuzestan, governor-general's office of Khuzestan, Islamic Association of the 92nd Division of Ahvaz, Islamic Association of Hamidiyeh base, Islamic Revolution Committee of Khuzestan, Central Mobilization Headquarters of Ahvaz, Shahid Foundation, Islamic Association of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Ahvaz and the Seucrity Headquarters of Ahvaz

Dezful Groups Cable Support

LD031826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] Islamic societies, army revolutionary tribunals, the politico-ideological department stationed on the Dezful and Shush fronts, the fourth air force base, the corps of revolution guards, the reconstruction crusade, the governorate, the headquarters responsible for the coordination of people's mobilization, and the mobilization of tribes, and the Shahid foundation of Dezful have sent a telegram to His Great Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri supporting his recent cable [to Bani-Sadr]. Following is the text of the cable:

In His exalted name. To His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri. Your promising message, a message sent by such a knowledgeable personality, the hope of the imam of the nation, is a manifestation of the inner and profound wishes of the heroic personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We and other combatants on the fronts as well as the heroic inhabitants of Dezful call on you, who has become familiar from close quarters with our enthusiasm and who is in constant touch with the armed forces of the Islamic republic and other heroes on the war fronts fighting with Iraqi mercenary forces, to convey our inner wish to our great imam so that he may call on the authorities to resolve the enigma around the failure to advance by the brave and faithful Iranian forces against the aggressive and demoralized Iraqi Army. Needless to say, your constant support of the army and the Islamic armed forces as well as the combative fighters is the best spiritual guarantee. We are waiting for the day to brief you on the latest reports on the [Dezful] front, when necessary.

AFP: BEHESHTI CRITICAL OF MILITARY INACTIVITY

NC021355 Paris AFP in English 1350 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 2 Jan (AFP)--The leader of Iran's powerful Islamic Republic Party today threw his weight behind complaints that army leaders have been holding off from a long-awaited Iranian offensive in the war with Iraq.

Ayatollah Mohammed Beheshti, who is also Supreme Court presidnet, told a Friday prayers meeting in Tehran: "The entire Iranian people are asking themselves why their army is not going into the attack." He voiced surprise that an offensive had not been launched at a time when intelligence reports said Iraqi forces were in a weak position.

The IRP leader's comments followed complaints from Ayatollah Hossein Montazeri, expected to succeed Ayatollah Khomeyni as the country's religious leader, that armed forces chiefs were "refusing" to launch a counter-offensive.

In his speech today Ayatollah Beheshti warned that the Iranian government increasingly needed political stability but was instead being weakened by the effects of recent speeches reported in newspapers and of street demonstrations. He said that 30 million of Iran's 36 million population were displaying a "growing coordination unity and conscience in relation to the true line of the Iranian revolution." One million of the others were not satisfied with the Islamic republic, "and never would be", while the other five million were undecided, he said. The ayatollah also alleged that 2,000 Tehran taxi drivers were "counter-revolutionaries," and said the people had a duty to report them. Taxi drivers were accused by some clergy last summer of expressing counterrevolutionary opinions. Strikes and demonstrations were condemned as "treason against Islam" by another speaker at today's prayers session, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyed 'Ali Khamene'i, who is Ayatollah Khomeyni's representative on the Supreme Defence Council.

He said that agents at work in Iran wanted the people to lose patience, but stressed that the country's leaders were united against the outside enemy, even if differences did exist among them.

Ayatollah Montazeri had previously blamed the supreme defence council for following "a time-wasting policy" in its handling of the war effort, which he said was giving Iraq the chance to rally its forces.

BANI-SADR TOURS FRONTS, ENCOURAGES SOLDIERS

LD062142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, today closely inspected the manner in which operations are being carried out and the advance made by the brave Iranian forces against the declining forces of Iraq's mercenary army. According to a PARS dispatch, the president of the republic, accompanied by Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Khamene'i, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, and Brigadier General Fallahi, the acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 0900 this morning, visited the staff command headquarters of the war fronts in a region, which, up to yesterday, was under the control of the mercenary forces of the Iraqi Ba'th army, and inspected the advance made by the combatant Iranian forces. Chatting to, encouraging and expressing his appreciation to the soldiers, officers and NCO's on this front the president of the republic called on them to continue their advance.

SUNNI-SHI'ITE SEMINAR SUPPORTS IMAM KHOMEYNI

GF051423 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] The joint seminar of Sunni and Shi'ite leaders and clergymen in the west that began Friday in Urumiyeh concluded yesterday afternoon. The seminar was held in response to an invitation by the great Islamic center in the west country of Urumiyeh. The seminar was attended by Sunni and Shi'ite clergymen from Mahabad, Oshnoviyeh, (Keranshahr) and Urumiyeh suburbs.

During the 3-day seminar views on ways to achieve more unity and solidarity between Shi'ite and Sunni clergymen and the entire great Islamic nation were exchanged.

The participants issued a statement declaring strong support for the Islamic revolution and the leadership of Imam Khomeyni. The statement also denounced the Iraqi attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran, which serves only the interests of international arrogance. The statement supported the religious scholars in Islamic countries, aprticularly those struggling for the cause of God and who are subjected to oppression and suppressive measures by reactionary regimes. The participants also said that they denounce and oppose regimes supporting eastern and Western imperialism and their supporters, such as the muftis who were instructed by the Jordanian and Moroccan shahs to denounce Iran's Islamic revolution.

'MARXIST' SPY GROUP ARRESTED IN SOUTHWEST

LD061010 Tehran PARS in English 0800 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 6 Jan (PARS)--The responsible authorities in Abadan, in southwest of Iran, yesterday located plots against the people of a Marxist group known as 'Paykar'. This group, which included physicians and junior staff of the oil company, were receiving military data about the battles in the southern battle fronts by utilising the most modern communicative equipment, and were putting them at the disposal of the enemy. So far, this is the fourth such spy group arrested after the outbreak of the war.

It should be recalled that the first group included 9 people who were sentenced to between 2 to 10 years of imprisonment at the beginning of the war on charges of giving military information to the Iraqi lackeys in the Khuninshahr front. The second group consisted of 68 advocates of the Mujahedin Khalq organisation who were arrested in Abadan and were handed over to the courts. 'Paykar' was formed when a number of the members of the Mujahedin Khalq organisation separated from the main organisation after an internal coup d'etat, resulting in the killing of several members of Mujahedin Khalq organisation, and announced that they were Marxist-Leninists.

The third group was also arrested in Abadan. This 15-member group intended to smuggle out some amounts of armaments which had been seized by the Iranian defenders from the Iraqi Army and that the group had stolen.

The fourth group, composed of 17 members, was arrested and handed over to the courts last week when moving amounts of munitions and communication on facilities from Abadan.

BAZARGAN DECRYS MUHAMMAD RITE OPPORTUNISTS

NC041311 Paris AFP in English 1306 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Tehran, 4 Jan (AFP)--The Iranian liberation movement led by Mehdi Bazargan--the first prime minister after the fall of the shah--today accused a small group of "opportunists" of trying to manipulate tomorrow's ceremonies marking the anniversary of the death of Muhammad.

"A people will never allow its rites and traditions to be exploited through the narrow schemes of a group of a party, and it will never allow itself to be manipulated," the movement said in a communique in the newspaper MIZAN. The movement warned that in the "struggle against colonialists from East and West" it was necessary to avoid such manipulation or risk losing the confidence of the Iranian people.

ISLAMIC SUMMIT TO BE BOYCOTTED IF IRAQ TAKES PART

LD061748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1638 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, accompanied by all of his Cabinet members, was received in audience this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to PARS, after this meeting Mr Raja'i said as regards the participation of Iran in the Islamic Conference meeting in Riyadh: The imam said that if Saddam takes part in this conference, we will not participate in the conference.

In connection with the recent victories of the fighters of Islam, he said: We congratulated the imam in this connection and the imam was very happy about this matter and urged that sufficient facilities should be put at the disposal of the armed forces.

TV FILM OF TONDGUYAN 'DISPROVED' IRAQI CLAIMS

LD031226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] The oil minister's secretary today told a PARS journalist that about 10 days ago Turkish and West German television simultaneously broadcast a film showing [Iranian Oil Minister] Mohammad Javad Tondguyan and his companions. What was noteworthy in this film was Tondguyan's appearance in his normal clothing, which he wore when captured. He added that previously Iraq claimed that Tondguyan was wearing a military uniform when captured. Therefore, the Iraqi government's lying assertion has been disproved once again. Concerning Tondguyan's surgical operation in Iraq, he said that because of torture and the severe body blows received by Tondguyan, the Iranian oil minister's spleen most probably suffered from hemorrhage and it was surgically removed.

ROULEAU: IRAN HAD FOREKNOWLEDGE OF IRAQI ATTACK

LD061641 Paris LE MONDE in French 6 Jan 81 pp 1, 5

[Part one of four-part Eric Rouleau dispatch: "Iran--The 'Consecrated' War; I--The Holy Alliance"]

[Text] Tehran--"Was it not your KGB which indirectly passed on to us the secret plan for the Iraqi offensive?" President Bani-Sadr's point-blank question clearly embarrassed the USSR ambassador. Vladimir Vinogradov lapsed into an embarrassed silence but his face was lit by a smile which was as broad as it was enigmatic. The Iranian head of state had pointed out that the invasion of the Islamic republic, which had begun more than 36 hours before his conversation with the diplomat, was following a scenario described in detail in a report [apparent line drop] weeks previously. Who but the Kremlin, he wondered, could have access to the plans of Baghdad's general staff?

Later Bani-Sadr was to assert that the Iranian services had "paid a high price" for the document in Paris. Some people maintain, however, that it was given free to the Iranian president--and to Imam Khomeyni--by the Tudeh Communist Party, which has its own "antennae" in Paris and Baghdad. Various indications seem to lend weight to that hypothesis. At the same time as the "transaction" was reportedly made in Paris, Mr Bani-Sadr had at least two meetings with Tudeh General Secretary Nureddin Kianuri, which was unusual. In private the latter had expressed satisfaction at the cordial reception he was given and the assurances that he said he received from the presidency of the republic of Imam Khomeyni's entourage on the "normalization" of his party's operations.

People also note that, from 3 September, Mr Kianuri was publicly issuing a warning: The Iranian people, he said, should mobilize to face an invasion in the near future, plotted by "counterrevolutionaries and the United States." He did not mention Iraq by name but he described the strategy which Baghdad was to use 3 weeks later: occupying Khuzestan, encouraging dissidence in Kordestan, depriving the country of oil and gradually strangling it. He supplied various other indications which corresponded--as was subsequently realized--to the information contained in the secret report handed to the Islamic authorities.

Nonetheless the authorities took no special steps to counter the Ba'thist offensive. The successive waves of aircraft which bombed airports and strategic installations, the infantry units and the tanks which crossed the borders at dawn on 22 September initially encountered no notable resistance. The Islamic republic's armed forces were elsewhere....

The Army's Unpreparedness

Who was responsible for that blameworthy negligence? The time for settling scores has not come yet but the controversy has already started, largely behind the scenes. The head of state's adversaries insidiously point out that he is also commander in chief of the armed forces. Bani-Sadr admits, of course, that he hesitated, initially believing that it was an effort to deceive him because the intelligence received seemed to correspond so well with communist interests. The invasion plan, the secret report in fact indicated, had been drawn up not only in consultation with emigre circles in Paris (Mr Bakhtiar and General Oveysi were named) but also and above all in collaboration with U.S. and Israeli military experts. It was only after an inquiry into the fact which could be checked--such as the extent of the Iraqi buildup--that the Iranian president finally took the military threat seriously and insisted that appropriate steps be taken.

It was then the turn of the other officials to show skepticism. The power struggle was in full swing; Mohammad Raja'i was forming a homogeneous government excluding the president's supporters. The Islamic Republican Party [IRP] organ JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI published on 30 August a long list of reproaches insinuating, among other things, that Mr Bani-Sadr was "blowing up the threat posed by the U.S. plot" to impose his men in key state positions. The Iranian president also tried to curb the dismissal of officers considered suspect, pointing out in a more general way that "the officers' competence is more important to the republic than their ideology"--an opinion which he continues to uphold today despite the indignation which it arouses in the Muslim movement's radical wing. "I did everything to convince officials of the danger awaiting us," he wrote recently in his newspaper ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, "I made recommendations, I pleaded, begged, screamed, but in vain; nobody wanted to listen to me...."

In fact several other factors combined to paralyze Iran in face of the Iraqi invasion which was being planned. Following the discovery of two large-scale plots, the armed forces were undergoing a purge and reorganization. In addition, tasks deemed more "urgent" had been assigned to them by former war minister Mostafa Chamran and his brother Mehdi Chamran, then intelligence services chief: the "pacification" of Kordestan, and the territory's defense against a Soviet invasion which diplomacy chief Sadeq Qotbzadeh said was imminent. Thus, on the very day when the Iraqi tanks entered Khuzestan, a thousand Iranian tanks were mounting guard on the border with the USSR.

The Iranian leaders clearly did not really believe that the Iraqis would go so far as to invade while the undeclared war they had been waging against the Islamic republic since its foundation was escalating. The battle which the two regimes were fighting was in fact not as even as it seemed. Of course the Tehran leaders advocated "exporting the revolution" without succeeding in consolidating the revolution in their own territory; they probably maintained opposition groups in Iraq--essentially the Ad-Da'wah Shi'ite Party and one of the Kurdish organizations (Barzani group)--but without any notable results.

The means which the Iraqis had for destabilizing the Islamic republic were, on the other hand, much more extensive and above all more effective. The almost daily attacks and sabotage operations which Baghdad organized in Iranian Khuzestan (renamed "Arabistan" by the Ba'thist regime) were seriously disrupting the oil industry. The arms, munitions and supplies given to the Iranian Kurdish guerrillas were fuel for a war which was draining Tehran's economic and military resources. All the groups, royalist or republican, which were seeking to overthrow the Khomeyni regime, were entitled to the Iraqi Government's hospitality and material support. For instance, General Oveysi and Mr Bakhtiar each have a radio station on which they broadcast, in addition to their diatribes, daily advice to their supporters, notably in the tribes and within the Islamic forces.

Two Basic Factors

Why then did Saddam Husayn decide to resort to outright war? To obtain implementation of the Algiers agreements, as he initially maintained? Those agreements were, however, scrupulously respected on the essential points, and Tehran raised no obstacle to free navigation in the Shatt al-'Arab estuary. To obtain border adjustments? In case of dispute the agreements in question had made provision for a whole series of conciliation mechanisms--bilateral negotiations, mediation by third countries, arbitration by the International Court of Justice in the Hague--which the Ba'thist government chose to ignore.

If Saddam Husayn's objective was to overthrow the Khomeyni regime, the situation must have struck him as particularly propitious. The persistence of the quarrels within the leadership team, the drop in oil production and, with them, the drop in state revenue had increased the people's discontent. He had to deal the fatal blow before Mr Raja'i's government, which had just taken office, could improve the Islamic republic's internal and external situation and before negotiations--already under way--with the United States could settle the hostage problem, restore the "frozen" Iranian assets and lift the European embargo....

Judging by the intelligence supplied to the Iranian authorities, the Iraqi general staff intended to seize Khuzestan in less than 1 week and join up with Kordestan which would have fallen into the Kurdish guerrillas' hands, before installing--on 5 October to be precise--a "free government" led by Mr Bakhtiar in Ahvaz, capital of the oil province. This lightning offensive was to coincide with risings within the armed forces and among the population, dealing a deathblow to the Islamic republic.

This plan, however, did not take account of two basic factors: Iranian patriotism and the attachment felt by a large part of the population to the Islamic revolution's achievements and to Imam Khomeyni in person. The ethnic minorities--Azarbayjanis, Turkmens, Baluchis and, contrary to all expectations, the Khuzestan Arabs--set aside their grievances and their demands and backed their government. In a way the Kurds are no exception. Those living in the part of the territory invaded by the Iraqis are fighting as fiercely as the others. Elsewhere it is highly likely that the local autonomist guerrillas would do the same if necessary.

The holy alliance--the first major consequence of the Gulf war--has thus been used to consolidate the Isalmic republic's foundations.

IRAQI AD-DA'WAH PARTY CABLES KHOMEYNI ON VICTORY

GF061749 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The Iraqi Ad-da'wah Party has sent the following congratulatory cable to the imam:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To our leader and imam of our nation, Ayatollah Khomeyni, may God grant you long life. God's peace, mercy and benedictions be upon you.

We bless the bright victory achieved yesterday by the soldiers of Islam against the soldiers of satan and the ignominious defeat of the infidel Ba'thist forces along the flaming front. May God make this the beginning of an overall defeat of all the forces of the enemy of Islam. It is undoubtedly a severe blow to the great Satan, the United States, and its hypocrite agents inside the country and a sure defeat to their cowardly plots against our leading Islamic revolution. May God grant victory to the world's countries under your leadership and under the banners of "God is great" in order to save the millions of downtrodden and oppressed from the tyranny and pride of the pharaohs. God grant you long life so that you may reach the sublime divine goals.

[Signed] The Islamic Ad-Da'wah Party on 29 Safar 1401 [6 January 1981]

AD-DA'WAH STATEMENT ON MOJAHEDIN FIGHTING IN IRAQ

JN061000 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The Ad-Da'wah Party in Iraq has issued a statement on the operations carried out by the brother ojahedin inside Iraq against the regime of Saddam's clique.

The statement issued by the Ad-Da'wah party said that eight mojahed brothers last Thursday attacked the directorate of public security headquarters in Baghdad and occupied its main entrance in an attempt to gain access to the arrested brothers and set them free. This group clashed with the building guards, killing 19 of them. The security forces called in the special forces and five mojahedin brothers were martyred and three others taken captive.

The Ad-Da'wah statement added that another group of the party's mojahedin last Wednesday attacked the directorate of public security in An-Najaf, killing nine executioners of the mecenary Iraqi regime. Members of the group returned safely to their bases.

The Ad-Da-wah statement went on to say: A four-member group of the so-called People's Army attacked the house of a brother ojahedin, who is a soldier carrying the rank of corporal, in the city of An-Nasiriyah. In the clash which took place between the executiners and the mojahedin, several of Saddam's mercenaries were killed as was the brother corporal.

The Ad-Da'wah statement added that several of the party's mojahedin acquired large quantities of arms and equipment in an attack against a certain camp.

TEHRAN ANALYZES KISSINGER'S MIDEAST TOUR

GF311840 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary: "Kissinger Returns To Harvest the Fruits of 6-Year Efforts"]

[Text] Kissinger has returned to reap the fruits of efforts made during the Carter administration--Camp David, ending the state of war, and driving Egypt out of the jihad arena. All of these achievements, which belong to Israel, were the result of Kissinger's efforts since 1974 when the step-by-step policy initiated by the devil of the U.S. policy, Dr Kissinger, were implemented during the Ford administration.

Kissinger has come to push the peace conspiracy further and to push the Camp David wheel forward after it had stopped as a result of the victory of the Islamic revolution--which created a broad foundation of awareness that permeated the Arab Muslim masses.

The buried shah's friend has come back to the region in the absence of his intimate friend the shah and in the absence of the gigantic resources available to the U.S. imperialist machine. Today, after being away from the Middle East for 6 years, Kissinger will find himself in a new world and not in the Middle East of 5 or 6 years ago.

It is true he will not see any change in the character of the regimes or the leaders that he will meet, but the general mood of the masses of today will resist his efforts and his satanic policies for many reasons.

The first of these is the way the masses view the horrible result of Kissinger's step-by-step policy: This policy brought about Camp David and the masses have perceived, through intuition, that each of Kissinger's steps was in the interest of world Zionism and against the interests of the peoples of the region.

The other reason is their disappointment over Kissinger's policy on Iran. Kissinger is no longer a genius as depicted by the Western press and he no longer understands policy or political equations. As for his consideration of the role of the people, he does not consider them at all. Therefore, Kissinger's prophecy that the buried shah's regime would survive did not come true because he considered the Islamic revolution as a phase that would soon pass, but the Islamic revolution has proved to Kissinger and others that it is God's will manifested in the masses' will. The shah fell at the hands of this will and political equations, wrought by U.S. politicians such as Kissinger, also failed. The masses in the region have witnessed Kissinger's fall--his policy and alleged cunningness--in the victory of the Islamic revolution.

So, the Zionist professor is no longer a hero. The marks of defeat are on him and unlike his previous visits, this visit is characterized by fear of failure and the risks surrounding his second trial. The only thing Kissinger believes he will succeed in is assuring his friends and raising their spirits--which declined following the blows of the masses--and arranging more coordination between the Camp David partners.

The day before Kissinger's visit to Cairo, AL-AHRAM said, on behalf of As-Sadat's foreign minister, that there are Arab countries involved with Egypt in the Camp David settlement, but that the situations in these countries prevent them from announcing their stands. These Arab countries were not named. Of course the countries involved in Camp David are those which Kissinger will visit after Egypt and Israel, but Husayn's escapism prevented Kissinger from visiting Jordan, and the war between Iraq and the Islamic republic prevented him from visiting Iraq.

The final question is: Will Kissinger achieve anything out of this tour, which is the beginning of a new campaign? Observers expect major achievements from Kissinger; such as: Affirming the major role of the U.S. in the Middle East settlement, revitalizing Camp David after the stalemate that lasted more than 1 year, solving the Palestinian problem through an agreement with Jordan, and confronting the liberation movements, particularly the Islamic ones that are sweeping the area, by providing expertise and resources to the regimes he will or will not visit in this tour.

These four points are the cornerstone of U.S. po.icy in the Middle East, which Kissinger has come to implement. The crucial question is whether Kissinger will be able to implement this policy in the long run. The answer will be in the days that follow his tour.

RADIO, KHOMEYNI CRITICIZE USSR'S AFGHAN OCCUPATION

LD311802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1510 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Last Saturday was the first anniversary of the military occupation of Afghanistan by the Red Army. On the afternoon of Saturday, 27 December 1979, the Red Army entered Afghanistan in a widespread invasion. With this invasion a new chapter was opened in the history of this Muslim country. Why was Afghanistan occupied? To answer this question we have to have a brief look at the contemporary history of Afghanistan.

After World War II, first the Americans and then the Russians turned a covetous eye toward Afghanistan. During the reign of Mohammad Zahir Shah the Americans and the Russians plundered Afghanistan's natural resources. In July 1973 Mohammad Daoud, who claimed himself to be a Muslim socialist, toppled the regime of Mohammad Zahir Shah in a coup d'etat and declared a republic. During the rule of Daoud Khan the Afghan Army came completely under Soviet control, until gradually, through their military advisers and the Parcham and Khalq parties, the Soviet Union became the dominant power in Afghanistan. Eventually, on 7 May 1978, in a bloody military coup d'etat, Nur Mohammad Taraki achieved power and brought Soviet influence and domination over Afghanistan into the open. With Taraki's access to power and the setting up of a Marxist government in the country, the armed struggle of the Afghan people against the military forces began: During Taraki's rule more than 45,000 Afghans were killed by the communist and dependent forces of the Afghan regime. During the 5 months of Taraki's military rule over Afghanistan more than 200 treaties were signed with the Soviet Union. The natural resources of Afghanistan, including gas, petroleum, cotton and other important resources of this country were presented to the Russians on a platter. During the last weeks of Taraki's regime, the Afghan people's movement developed into a widespread and total movement and the communists were pushed to the wall.

The Russians, who discovered that Taraki's regime was incapable of subduing the Afghan fighters, thought that the only solution was to remove Taraki. On 11 September 1978 Hafizollah Amin came to power in a bloody coup d'etat. Taraki was executed and martial law was established in Afghanistan.

During Amin's rule thousands of the brave soldiers and officers of the Armed Forces of Afghanistan deserted and joined the Afghan fighters and mojahedin. The Afghan mojahedin made life difficult for Amin's regime with their untiring struggles and fought against his regime as hard as they could. Toward the end of Amin's rule, the Afghan fighters had put such a stranglehold on Afghanistan's dependent regime that Kabul, Afghanistan's capital, was at the point of falling. According to confessions of the Russians themselves, had they carried out their military occupation of Afghanistan 24 hours later, Kabul, and consequently the communist regime of Afghanistan, would have been put at risk of falling.

Finally, Afghanistan was occupied on 27 December 1979, and 1 hour later Hafizollah Amin, too, was destroyed and this dependent pawn also left the scene. After a few days, Babrak Karmal came to power as a new pawn and began to follow the goals of his masters. Since 27 December of last year the people of Afghanistan have engaged in a ceaseless struggle against the masters of Babrak Karmal--despite the Soviets' kind treatment of their slaves and despite their claim that they had occupied Afghanistan only in order to assist the people of that country. Time and time again their villages have been bombed and many innocent Afghan people have lost their lives as a result. Nevertheless, the Afghan guerrillas have proved that so long as Islam is alive in Afghanistan it will not allow the aliens to rule over it and that destruction is the unavoidable fate of all criminals.

[Begin Imam Khomeyni recording] Look at Afghanistan. Although Afghanistan has some leftist parties which are powerful; although its government is against its people and the people against the government; and although the forces of a superpower have entered that country, nevertheless, such a political blow was delivered against the Soviet Union because of its invasion of Afghanistan that it was disgraced more than ever. The powerful guerrillas of Afghanistan delivered such a mighty blow at the face of the Soviet Union that it should not raise its head again. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 364, 365

364: 6 Jan Wrapup

LD061756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1640 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Communique 364 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the true adherents and faithful followers of Imam Hoseyn's school, while continuing the glorious uprising of the knight of liberty and the torchbearer of humanity's freedom, with their many offensives against the mercenaries of Saddam's oppressive regime of injustice, have gained fresh victories for Islam. Here are more of the activities today of the self-sacrificing troops in the battles for righteousness and truth against blasphemy and darkness:

1) At 0945 today the enemy opened intense fire on our units in the Farsiat region, but came face to face with the resistance and steadfastness of Islam's combatants and intense artillery fire from the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The mercenary enemy, who was stunned and bewildered by the heroic riposts of the defenders of faith and the homeland, suffered heavy losses and casualties, and was forced to retreat.

2) At 1635 today the helicopters of the aviation force of the ground forces, the Airborne Division, attacked the enemy's Qadisyah tank battalion in the Susangerd region and inflicted major losses on the said battalion.

3) The heroes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran attacked and bombed an assembly point of the enemy's forces in the Jofeyr and Hamidiyeh region. In addition to the human losses they inflicted on the enemy these heroes destroyed 80 percent of the vehicles and trucks belonging to the aggressive mercenaries.

4) Thanks to firing by our own units against the enemy forces on the Darkhovin-Mared axis one mercenary mortar, one tank, one vehicle and three trenches were set ablaze.

5) In addition to the two aggressive Iraqi MiG's and one helicopter, the shooting down and destruction of which was announced today in communique 363, another two aggressive MiG's were also hit and destroyed in the Ahvaz region. In the meantime, two aggressive aircraft were spotted by radar on Khark Island and, thanks to firing by the ground-to-air defense units, they vanished from the scene.

6) Saddam's infidel forces, following their defeat in the Ahvaz region, opened artillery and heavy weapons fire on the cities of Abadan and Dezful and as a result several residential houses and shops were destroyed and set on fire. As a result of this attack two persons were wounded. On these fronts the exchange of fire between Islam's combatant forces and the enemy still continues while our forces enjoy firepower superiority.

7) According to dispatches that we have received dissatisfaction has recently spread among Iraqi police personnel because of the Iranian-Iraqi war and members of the Iraqi police are regularly deserting.

[signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

365: Gilan-e Gharb Gains

LD062136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Communique 365 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Iran's Muslim combatants are steadfast to the death along the path of their sacred aspirations, which draw their vigor from the tenents of Islam and the Koran, and are defeating the efforts of the obscurantist Ba'thists with the purpose of revealing the light of truth of the Islamic revolution.

During today's coordinated offensive operations by the Armed Forces of the Islamic of Iran, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the popular forces in the Gilan-e Gharb region, 70 mercenaries were killed and over 120 were wounded. A large enemy ammunition dump was exploded and three of their tanks were utterly destroyed. The disintegrating army of the defeated and despondent aggressors was pushed back several kilometers.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

THREE IRAQI BRIGADES REPORTED DESTROYED IN OFFENSIVE

LD060700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The correspondent of the Central News Bureau, who has returned from the front in the south of Hoveyzeh--the scene of yesterday's clashes--at 1930 last night reported on the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic, in Ahvaz, that in yesterday's battle an Iraqi brigade was completely annihilated. The Ba'thist forces, leaving large amounts of weapons and ammunition, have been pushed back 22 km to the southwest, from the south of Susangerd, and have retreated to the Hamid garrison.

Our correspondent, who witnessed the victory of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hoveyzeh said that Dr Bani-Sadr, the president, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, were present at the front and had complete control over the activities and sacrifices of the forces of Islam.

Our correspondent added that the number of Iraqi captives has been reported between 200 and 1,200; he said he had witnessed the captives being carried to Ahvaz in tens of buses.

In this report, it was stated that tens of undamaged Iraqi tanks had been captured by our own forces and large amounts of other war equipment was seized.

PARS, quoting a reliable source in Ahvaz, reported that the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, consisting of military brothers, the Islamic revolution guards, and the irregular forces, in the first stage of their offensive annihilated all the armored units of Saddam's mercenaries, which were positioned in the region near the Karkheh Kur. It was reported that many troops from these units were killed yesterday in attacks by the combatants of Islam and that many others were captured. The number of Iraqi captives, for which there is no accurate statistics yet, has been mentioned as more than 800. The report states that these attacks were so sudden that the aggressive enemy had no time for even the slightest resistance; they tried to escape the area but were either annihilated or captured by the forces of Islam. In these attacks the casulaties from our own forces were reported to be very few.

According to the latest report from the front in the south of the country, a reliable source at the Abadan war headquarters has reported that in yesterday's attack, two Iraqi brigades were annihilated. In addition, 1700 prisoners and hundreds of tanks, vehicles and personnel carriers were taken by the forces of Islam.

REPORTAGE ON SOUTHERN, WESTERN FRONT FIGHTING

LD012036 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 1 Jan 81

[Text] The reporters of PARS NEWS AGENCY and the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have filed the latest developments of the war fronts as follows:

1) Western front: The extensive heavy artillery fire continued almost all day today. Three Iraqi vehicles in one of the western fronts reportedly struck land mines and all their occupants were killed. In Ilam fronts, one supply tent of the enemy forces was destroyed in a guerrila activity of the Iranian forces. This guerrilla group in their way back faced a patrol team of the Iraqi forces and as a result of this clash four Iraqis were killed and three others were injured while the Iranian valiants returned to their base safely.

2) Southern fronts: The artillery fire and helicopter gunships of the Iranian forces, yesterday, destroyed 12 tanks, 6 armored vehicles, 1 cannon, 2 ammunition depots and 1 heavy machine of the Iraqi forces in Ahvaz-Khuninshahr road. A large number of the enemy forces were also killed or injured. Meanwhile, the Iraqi forces today resumed shelling the residential areas of Ahvaz and one resident of the city was martyred while three others were injured. According to reports received here, as a result of the Iraqi ground to ground missile attack on residential areas of Dezful, Susangerd and Abadan, damages have been inflicted upon houses and other places. Also in Andimeshk front the (?extent) of fire was audible until 0400 hours local time today. Reports from Abadan front indicate the exchange of fire continued this afternoon in this front. This morning an Iranian war plane bombarded the enemy positions in Mahshahr-Abadan axis and around Mared area, and pounded an armored coloumn of the enemy forces. Several Iraqi invaders have reportedly been killed but no exact figure is available.

WAR RELATED ACTIVITIES IN AHVAZ, DEZFUL AREA

Air Raid Alerts

GF011327 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1305 GMT 1 Jan 80

[Text] This is Ahvaz, Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dear listeners, the siren you are about to hear denotes the red alert condition. An air raid is imminent. [sound of siren] [Message repeated at 1330 and 1501 GMT on 1 January and at 1524 GMT on 3 January]

City Leaders Meet

GF051900 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] The Ahvaz security council headquarters and its coordination council met yesterday in the presence of the Friday imam, the prosecutor, the governor, and representatives of official organizations and local revolutionary councils. Important problems of the city were discussed such as the shortage and mode of distribution of kerosene in the city. It was decided that kerosene should be rationed and should be made available to the people through the dealers. Problems of the reconstruction crusade organization in the construction of shelters and trenches were also discussed. It was decided that private and public organizations should cooperate with the organization in order to solve the problems. Its major expenses should be met through credit and a fixed budget. With regard to accelerating activities of certain companies and factories, certain measures were approved. Decisions were also taken in connection with certain public places and important centers in the city.

Iraqi Brigade Besieged

JN070911 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 7 Jan 81

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Quoting a report from the southern front, JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI says that an Iraqi brigade has been besieged by our victorious forces on this front, and that the only choice it has is to surrender or to be exterminated.

ARTILLERY EXCHANGES CONTINUE ON ABADAN FRONTS

LD311720 Tehran Domestic Se ice in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] According to a PARS correspondent, the exchange of fire between the combatants of Islam and the Iraqi mercenaries continued on all Abadan fronts all through last night and this morning and both sides shelled each other's positions. According to the same report, in spite of heavy rain in Abadan the fighters of Islam maintained their fire superiority all through today. This report says that Iraqi mercenaries shelled residential areas in Abadan with their long-range artillery, and several houses were damaged. The spokesman of the relief group in Abadan told PARS that during the past 24 hours 2 people were martyred and 14 injured.

REPORTAGE ON WESTERN FRONT BATTLES 31 DEC-2 JAN

Saqqez Mopping-up Operation

LD311734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] According to PARS, the governor of Saqqez has announced: Yesterday two more villages between Saqqez and Bowkan were mopped up by the forces defending the revolution; and during a clash a group of armed counterrevolutionaries were killed or wounded and the rest of them were put to flight. These operations were carried out by the brother guards corps of Saqqez with the support of two helicopters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Following the mopping-up operations, the forces of Islam were warmly welcomed by the inhabitants of these villages. The forces of Islam did not suffer any losses in this clash.

Weather Slows Fighting

LD311905 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch from Kermanshahan, the change of weather, the fall in temperature, and rains in the border regions of the western parts of the country during the past 24 hours has brought about a marked decrease in fighting on the western fronts. The report says: however, desultory fighting in the form of artillery exchanges continued between Islam's defenders and the mercenaries of Saddam at-Tikriti on the Qasr-e Shirin, Zahab, Sumar, Zeleh Zar, and the heights above the Kanjamcham Dam, Arkavaz, Malakshahi, Kani Sakht and Shur-e Shirin fronts.

According to a PARS dispatch, quoting the public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in western Iran, Mohammad Amin Sadeqi, a member of the defunct Democratic Party of Kordestan, and carrying a G-3 rifle, 3 magazines and 60 rounds of ammunition, surrendered to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Marivan and received safe conduct.

Ilam Province Successes

LD311730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1644 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] PARS, quoting the public relations department of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Ilam, reported: During mine planting operations by the combatants of the corps inside enemy territory on the Darreh Mahi road between the Siah and Shahabi posts in Iraq, one vehicle carrying enemy personnel was destroyed and the personnel inside it were killed.

The self-sacrificing personnel of the corps, during the past 2 days, also succeeded in totally destroying one TOW missile ammunition dump and one TOW missile launching position, which had been located on top of an important, strategic hill in the region of Mehran. A large number of Saddam's mercenaries and operators [presumably of the TOW missile launcher] were also killed. Also in the same region, as a result of heavy mortar fire by the corps brothers, 12 enemy foxholes and squad trenches were destroyed and the forces deployed in them killed.

Iraqi Lines Shelled

LD021738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1644 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, last night, as a result of artillery fire by the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Qasr-e Shirin area, two enemy positions were hit and six Iraqi mercenaries were killed.

SHIRAZ CALLS UP RECRUITS, PLANS 5 JAN MARCH

Calm Urged

GF041104 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Communique issued by Arsanjan Revolution Guards--date not given]

[Text] In connection with the murder of Mohammad Zarghami and his accompanying rifleman, the residents of Sa'adatshahr, Qasr Od Dasht and suburbs are requested to maintain calm and discipline and to continue to carry out their daily tasks. The communique adds that those trying to misuse the present situation will be dealt with through revolutionary actions.

Guards Asked to Report

GF041100 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] Marvdasht Islamic revolution guards have requested those brothers who have completed their mobilization classes and who are ready to be sent to the battlefront to report to the guards corps office by 5 January.

Draftees Asked to Report

GF041057 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] The Dehdasht gendarmerie company has asked all draftees born between 21 March 1959 and 20 March 1961 to report to this company by 5 January 1981.

5 Jan March Invitation

GF041603 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Ayatollah Dastagheyb, the Shiraz Friday imam, has issued the following communique:

In His exalted name. On the occasion of the death of his holiness the last of the prophets, Mohammad ibn 'Abdollah, while offering condolences to his holiness who is favored by God--may he end all the suffering--and his just deputy his holiness Imam Khomeyni--may we always be under his shadow--all faithful brothers and sisters are invited to attend a march tomorrow, 5 January, the day of departure of the great one, from 0800 to 0900 in the holy shrine of his holiness Musa. From there the march will proceed toward the Dar Alrahmeh cemetary where the graves of the martyrs will be visited. It is expressly suggested that the brothers and sisters avoid bringing any photographs except that of the leader of the revolution and avoid any chants in support or against any individual or group.

GUARDS ATTACKED BY ARMED GROUP NEAR SARDASHT

LD311814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] According to PARS, the political deputy of the governor general of West Azarbayjan at 1130 today announced: During a clash at 1530 on 29 December between the brothers of the army and the guards on the one hand, and illegal armed attackers on the other, in the vicinity of Sardasht, two military brothers and two revolution guards brothers were wounded. He said: the wounded are in a satisfactory condition; no report has reached us about the level of losses suffered by the attackers.

NVOI CHIDES CRITICS OF GOVERNMENT, USSR, ATTACKS U.S.

TA032051 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "We Should Take the Threats of U.S. Imperialism and its Elements Seriously."]

[Text] Dear compatriots: World-devouring America has once again resorted to a policy of blackmail and threat vis-a-vis the just and legal demands of our nation. The managers of U.S. aggressive policy have made impudence reach a point where they are now giving an ultimatum to Iran--to a country that for years was under the boots of advisors, military advisers and U.S. plunderous middlemen and was pillaged and looted--that if in 2 weeks the proposals of the United States regarding the hostage spies are not accepted, they will resort to vast [word indistict] (damage). Parallel with this obvious U.S. world-devouring ultimatum, counterrevolution and elements in different parts of the country and especially in the guise of the bazaaris and the compromising liberal bourgeoisie have lifted their heads.

As we are aware, one of the country's newspapers has recently published a letter by these bazaari gentlemen, influenced by the Qotbzadehs, on its first page and in capital characters, addressing the prime minister, saying: "Mr Raja'i, you are not competent for this job, and you should retire from the job." The fact that this newspaper has published the letter of a group of bazaaris written nearly a month ago, during these days and simultaneous with U.S. threats, can be endured.

Ayatollah Beheshti, during Friday prayers, referred to the letter of the bazaari gentlemen merely from an economic viewpoint and set forth the question whether this government really [word indistict] all the existing economic difficulties and shorthcomings? Ayatollah Beheshti said "On what occasion did these gentlemen write to the prime minister that he should transfer to others a job for which he is competent and who are these 'others' who have hid behind the curtains?" In reality what happened is that simultaneously with U.S. threats of a new military aggression among certain circles, of whose dependence on U.S. imperialism there is no doubt, there is talk of the necessity of the prime minister's retirement and the coming to power of an alleged competent personality. For the time being, we have nothing to do with this business and the case is not whether Mr Raja'i is or is not the most competent person for the post of prime minister. This is not the topic of the day. What is very important is that specific groups under any excuse or nonsense and under these sensitive conditions for our homeland are overtly trying to create difficulties for a government elected by the Islamic Consultative Assembly. It is wrong to view this matter merely from an economic point of view. Behind these alleged protests and [word indistinct] of the bazaaris, on the economic difficulties of the country, lies a political aim more important and dangerous. These gentlemen, without uttering it, want to say that now that U.S. imperialism is threatening us with aggression, attacks and plots, those who are situated on the anti-American side should retire and open the way for the Qotbzadehs, Bazargans, Yazdis and Chamrans, who in any way and aspect are both trusted by the United States and from an economic viewpoint are allededly experienced and experts.

Past experience has shown that every time our liberated homeland was seriously threatened by U.S. imperialism, counterrevolution inside and abroad--inside under the flag of the compromising liberal bourgeoisie and opportunistic, narrow-minded elements and monopoly-seeking extreme leftists--and abroad, under the flag of Brzezinski entrusted to the Bakhtiars, Zahedis, Ashrafs, Aminis and Nazihs, have raised their heads. Now once again dangerous moments for the revolution and the existence of the Islamic Republic of Iran have arrived. The warnings of the leaders and notables of the country to the Iranian nation are vital and necessary. The nation must be alert--which fortunately she is, and ready for self-sacrifice and [word indistinct]. Unfortunately, however, it must be said that alertness and a feeling of responsibility among all the leaders and officials is not only on an essential level but in some instances this or that politician or responsible government personality willingly or unwillingly, by laying out the economic and social problems of the country in a provocative way and contrary to the truth, are practically pouring grist into the mills of the revolution's enemies. They cause and prepare the ground for the weakening of the front of the true revolutionary forces inside the country and the front of solidarity and support for the revolution in the international arena.

The United States looted Iran for tens of years. The United States hatches plots against Iran every day and has concentrated her warships near the Iranian littoral. The United States equips counterrevolution inside and abroad, it has resorted to an economic blockade against the rights of our country, has frozen Iranian assets and gives an ultimatum to Iran. The United States has mobilized the regimes of as-Sadat, Ziaul Haq, Qabus, King Husayn and the Saudis against Iran, but even if it is surprising, it is a reality that some of the leaders of our country, either based on mental prejudices and superficialities or in order to show their alleged neutrality, even today repeat the Maoist term of superpowers like a Strophe-poem and lately they speak of Soviet imperialism. If we are to be vigilant, and we should be vigilant, we should be aware of the [word indistinct] especially from the officials. We should be twice as vigilant so that they will not divert public opinion from the danger of the main enemy--namely world-devouring U.S. imperialism.

NVOI CLAIMS WASHINGTON THREATENING MILITARY ACTION

TA062055 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Rise To Safeguard the Revolution With the Utmost Power"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Following an extensive propaganda campaign and the refusal to implement the just and legitimate demands of the Iranian nation, finally rabid U.S. imperialism has once more demonstrated its ugly and arrogant face to the people of the world, as it really is. As we are aware the U.S. Government recently gave a 2-week deadline to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to give in to Washington's proposals and to release the American spy hostages. This policy of the U.S. Government is not surprising to anybody, for all are aware that for U.S. imperialism the problem of the hostages is merely a pretext to apply pressure on Iran and to carry out plots and provocations against our liberated homeland.

Despite the futile attempts of dependent liberal bourgeois circles to revive good relations with the United States, the true revolutionary forces have always stressed the fact that America's primary aim is the overthrow of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the liquidation of all the gains of the Iranian revolution and the revival of its fatal domination over Iran, not the release of its 52 spies. The principle policy of America has always been and continues to be to deal blows at the Iranian revolution and its gains. According to one of our country's revolutionary figures, if not only the 52 hostages but 100,000 Americans are also killed, the U.S. will still not give up this uncompromising stance. The passing of time is proving the justification of this view.

The U.S. imperialist government has given our country an ultimatum and has threatened that, should it not accept the U.S. proposals within two weeks and not release the hostages, it will not pay the amount which it intends to pay to Iran from a total of $24 billion of the Iranian nation's funds that have been frozen by the Carter administration. This is only the financial aspect of the problem. The other side of the problem, however, is the frenzied U.S. war preparations against our Islamic republic [words indistinct].

The anti-Iranian measures of the U.S. Government once again prove this statement of the imam of the nation, who said: "If the U.S. does not achieve its principle aim today or tomorrow, it will still not give up; even if it takes 50 years it will strive to achieve its evil and satanic aim through plots, provocations and subversion." Experience has shown that the imam's remarks were not only right but a hundred times right. According to U.S. newspapers, should Iran not accept America's proposals, that country's officials intend to consider various measures, allegedly to release the hostages, but in reality to strike at the Iranian revolution, and are making the necessary preparations for this. Quoting reliable U.S. sources these newspapers write that if Iran does not yield to America's demands, it will face the serious policy of the new administration, which could lead to more severe economic sanctions and possibly even to punitive military measures. The mining of Iranian ports in the Persian Gulf and their complete closure, as well as war operations against Iran have been considered in the plans of the U.S. Government.

All these demonstrate that U.S. imperialism has put aside its deceitful maneuvers about being interested in establishing good relations with Iran and allegedly not interfering in our country's affairs, and it has once more entered the arena of action with its true aggressiveness. Our liberated homeland is in an extremely dangerous and sensitive situation. U.S. imperialism and its Western allies, its foreign and domestic elements, have started operating against liberated Iran. Also within our country, U.S. elements, the dependent liberal bourgeois wing, remnants of the satanic regime, escaped Savakists, the homemade Maoists and the extreme leftists and rightists are lying in wait and are waiting for a suitable opportunity so that, by receiving instructions from their overseas masters, they can overtly implement the satanic plans for overthrowing the system of the Islamic republic and establishing a mercenary and dependent regime.

The danger of U.S. imperialism and the counterrevolution is a real, serious and obvious danger. This danger cannot and must not be overlooked. All the country's forces, all the true revolutionary forces, whether religious or non-religious, should rise hand in hand in a single, united, popular and democratic front to confront this danger and to crush the joint plots of imperialism and the counterrevolution. Our nation's revolution is exposed to danger, and we must rise to safeguard the revolution with the utmost power.

NVOI COMMENTS ON DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

5 Jan Commentaries

TA051944 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 5 January carried two commentaries.

The first was commentary entitled "Religious Commentary on the Occasion of the Death of His Holiness the Great God's Messenger." The date 5 January coincildes with two great bereavements for the world of Islam. The first is the death of his great holiness the prophet Mohammad and the second is the martyrdom of Hoseyn ibn 'Ali.

True Islam rejects exploitation, and we must confess that from the beginning of Islam until today, the attitude of all the clergy and religious teachers toward the principles of Islam has not been identical. During the black period of the American Mohammad Reza's reign we witnessed the bitter fact that some of the pseudoclergy cooperated with the rulers.

Now we are also witnessing supporters of two Islams: The true revolutionary Islam and the Islam of the Carters, Ziaul Haqs, big dependent landowners and capitalists. As Imam Khomeyni has pointed out, we see some who, with beards and turbans, have entered the arena and want to pass for Muslims but under this mask inflict blows on the true revolutionary Islam. World-devouring U.S. imperialism, along with all its agents in our country, from the big capitalists and landowners to the Savakists and homemade Maoists and compromising liberals, all rely on this pseudoclergy and hatch plots against the imam and revolution. The realization of the revolutionary Islamic principles depends on the unity of all the true revolutionary forces whether religious or secular.

The second commentary was entitled "In Defense of One's Legal Right." As we are aware, during the recent OPEC conference held in Indonesia, a series of acute problems were brought forth. The last OPEC conference was held under special and complicated conditions due to the war imposed on our country by elements of U.S. imperialism and to the constant U.S. pressure on the OPEC organization.

During this conference two groups having different attitudes toward oil problems were formed and, consequently, the decisions made were based on the views of both groups. Despite all the difficulties in the relations among the OPEC countries, this organization adopted an antimonopolistic policy and exerted its efforts to limit oil monopolies to the utmost and place the natural wealth of OPEC countries at the disposal of their national industry. The price of oil was increased by 10 percent and it was decided that every member of this organization should fix its price in the framework of the conference's decisions.

The decision to increase the price of oil caused such a great uproar in Washington that the U.S. State Department expressed regret for this OPEC decision and demanded a revision of this matter. U.S. Government pressure on members of OPEC results from pressures on U.S. authorities by U.S. oil kings. One interesting point is that by taking advantage of the energy crisis the oil cartel has increased its profits. The unity of OPEC countries is a guarantee of their victory.

6 Jan Commentary

TA061836 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 6 January a commentary entitled: "Let Us Put an End to the Subversive Activities of the Afghan Counterrevolutionaries in Our Homeland." As you are aware Egyptian President As-Sadat has decided to allocate about $1.5 million in aid to the so-called Afghan Muslim fighters, or more accurately, to the counterrevolutionary gang in Afghanistan. The American As-Sadat, however, has not sufficed with this and has announced a week of solidarity in Egypt with the counterrevolutionaries who are plotting against the legitimate government in Afghanistan.

It should be kept in mind that the primary base of assistance to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries is the regime of Ziaul Haq in Pakistan. Scores of military camps and bases have been established in Pakistani territory to train and equip the Afghan counter-revolutionaries. As we are aware, the Chinese Maoists are also actively participating in the training and equipping of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. All these plots against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are led by employees of the CIA. U.S. imperialism plays the most important role in hatching plots and committing bloody aggressions against revolutionary Afghanistan. As you are observing the Afghan counterrevolutionaries are a tool in the hands of U.S. imperialism and regimes such as the regime of As-Sadat, Ziaul Haq and the Chinese hegemonists. These regimes want to stifle the Afghan revolution through this bandit and counterrevolutionary gang.

To our deep regret there is still a considerable number of supporters of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries in our country. Some of these counterrevolutionary gangs continue to operate in our homeland. Their activities are not only aimed against the Afghan revolution, but also against our homeland's revolutionary gains. Our homeland's progressive and true revolutionary forces have repeatedly asked the authorities to put an end to the activities of these counterrevolutionary elements in our country. Supporting the subversive activities of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries against the legitimate and democratic Government of Afghanistan is below the dignity of our revolution and our Islamic republic.

KURDISH CENTRAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT DELAYED

TA061102 [Editorial Report] The clandestine Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Azerbaijani at 1400 GMT on 5 January broadcast the following announcement:

"Dear listeners: In our previous broadcasts we announced that today's Azerbaijani cast would begin with a statement by the Democratic Party Central Committee. However, in view of the death anniversary of the prophet of the Muslims, Mohammad Mustafa, it will not be broadcast today. We will broadcast the statement at [words indistinct] and draw the attention of our Muslim compatriots to this."